

This Old House

25

top product
picks
for your
kitchen
& bath



FREE STUFF!

\$178,000 giveaway

- > Bathroom sinks, tubs, and faucets
- > Kitchen appliances and cabinets
- > Windows, wood flooring, a workshop

...and even a whole house*

*No purchase necessary. For details, see page 14 or just go to thisoldhouse.com/win.

PLUS

32 stylish budget
bath ideas

The secret to a
weed-free lawn

Best tool
advice from
TOH TV pros



AUGUST 2011
THISOLDHOUSE.COM

\$4.99 US \$5.99 CAN

0.8



0 70989 10160 9



INTRODUCE
MARTHA TO
YOUR KITCHEN

WITHOUT RENOVATING
YOUR BUDGET

Kitchen featured: Grill Harbor cabinetry with Shoreline Corian® countertops.
Get started at homdep.com/marthakitchens.

Introducing **Martha Stewart Living™** cabinetry and **Martha Stewart Living** countertops by Corian®. High-quality, Martha-selected cabinets, countertops, and decorative hardware to help you coordinate and create a style of your own. **That's the power of The Home Depot®!**

MARTHA
LIVINGTM
Exclusively at The Home Depot



More saving. More doing.[®]

Our name has changed, but our personalized loan solutions remain the same.



We are OneMain Financial.SM Formerly CroFinancial.

Our focus is on you. That's why we provide personalised loan solutions and one-on-one local service. We've helped generations of customers, delivering a straightforward application process, clear terms and flexible payment options. We're just a short drive, call or click away.

► Tu souhaites gagner l'assurance-vie ? appelle 1-877-756-9444 ou visite au site GouvernanceFinanciere.com

49
KITCHEN AND BATH
PRODUCT PICKS

{ August 2011 }

THE GREAT TOH GIVEAWAY →

- 14 \$175+ in prizes**
Check out the complete list of giveaway products in this issue!
 - money-savers**
 - 44 get this look for less**
Open-air dining room
 - 76 making a statement home interior**
A well-connected couple has the home center to renew their 1940 cottage inside and out.
 - 88 26 ways to伸装 your bath on a budget**
Walk-in shower ideas designed to fit your fixed income won't sap your wallet.
 - idea file**
 - 29 before + after kitchens**
A long narrow eat-in pro space gets light and personalized.
 - 35 before + after bath**
A sparse bathroom becomes relaxing, interior bath.
 - 35 design ideas**
Integrate your classic bath with Victorian, Colonial, or Art Deco design elements.
 - 46 Photoshop redo**
An after-the-mirror help shape it: A Colonial-themed tub reveal.
 - 68 need this before you remodel a bath**
Pro tips and tricks that will help you get yourreno just right.
 - upgrades**
 - 43 price wise**
Vintage look handtowers
 - 49 our favorite new product picks**
Best finds for kitchen and bath.
 - 62 build it or buy it**
Porch storage bench
 - 62 all about**
Ponds



82

on the cover



44
S&T
THIS
LOOK
FOR
HOR

on the cover



in 1020 000 gromowy
a) 49 29 top produktu pokaz
do your kuchni smakow
in an 120 gromy budget.

bath salts
• The agency has
received three reports
ofベルト toxin advice

One-Way
WINDSHIELD WIPER
Driver Side Only



— 1 —

EXPECT MORE FROM YOUR THERMOSTAT

With its ease of use, flexibility and smart, streamlined design, Trane's award-winning ComfortLink II is redefining home energy management.

Gone are the days when your thermostat was just a dull, round device on the wall, waiting for you to turn the temperature up or down as needed. Welcome to a new age of comfort control with Trane's ComfortLink II. With its 7-inch highdefinition touch screen and intuitive user interface, ComfortLink II will forever change the way you think about thermostats.

Can Your Thermostat Do All This? The ComfortLink II Can:

- + Automatically adjust heating and cooling equipment as the weather changes.
- + Lower your monthly utility bills with pre-programming that adjusts the temperature to suit your comfort and schedule.
- + Monitor your weekly and monthly system use over time, allowing you to compare and better manage your home energy usage year-to-year.
- + Display current weather conditions and five-day forecasts, and receive storm alerts so you can plan accordingly.
- + Monitor the status of your indoor air quality, humidity and individual room temperature 24/7.
- + Remove allergies and humidity with quick clean cycles.
- + Diagnose system problems and provide possible causes via built-in diagnostics.
- + Function as a digital picture frame or default to an attractive screensaver that complements your home's decor when not in use.

Available in August! The ability to access and control the system from a web-enabled cell phone or computer.



For more information about the
Trane ComfortLink II, visit trane.com/CLII

See the
ComfortLink II
in action.



THIS MAGAZINE CAN COME IN HANDY IF YOU'RE HOT. BECAUSE YOU CAN FAN YOUR FACE WITH IT. PRETTY CONVENIENT, HUH?

CONVENIENT IF YOUR WHOLE BODY IS A FACE. BUT IT ISN'T. A TRANE WOULD NEVER JUST COOL YOUR FACE AND SAY, "TOO BAD, SO SAD" TO THE OTHER 95% OF YOUR BODY. NO, IT'D COOL 100% OF YOUR BODY USING UP TO 60% LESS ENERGY. NOW THAT'S PRETTY HANDY.



RELIABLE. ENERGY-EFFICIENT. CLEAN AIR FOR THE HOME. trane.com



Potential energy savings based on R-6001, 2010 ASHRAE 90.1-2007, 100% occupancy, Actual results will vary. © 2012 Trane. All rights reserved.



65

Tom Th

Landscape contractor Roger Cook and the rest of the TOH TV crew talk tools. Find out which top five each pro relies on and what makes them handy on the job.

46

10

107
READERS
TOOL TEST

16

1

home solutions

- 25 Make the most of closet space—create a salvaged bookshelf, add storage bins or shelves, and more.

TOH tv

- 6.5 **books of their choices**
The TV gets other insights on
their favorite authors.

how-to projects

- 39 landscaping**
How can landscapers create
a low-sunlight color palette?

paint ideas

- 73 weekend remodel**
Dress up your patio or deck with a little paint.

ask this old house

- Q + A**

Group-By-Value
Infovis competition

- 95 Marm's tricks of the trade
Kempysurchuk fine hook
In position

BRANDON HIGH TEAM

- in every issue**
 - letter from This Old House
 - reader mail
 - checklist
 - Entry ways to improve
your home right now
 - home news
 - Check out our new TOH@2002 Best
Old Home Neighborhood
 - thisoldhouse.com
 - director
 - save this old house



**BIGGER SWEET SPOT, BETTER PERFORMANCE
*75% LARGER STRIKE FACE**



Introducing the **Reveal™ AutoWise™ Heater**—as breakthrough design features a 10% longer strike force for improved consistency. By applying the same oversized technology that revolutionized the way golf and tennis are played, we have completely changed the game for professional contractors on the jobsite.

Find your sweet spot... drive the test road with a Buick® AntiNuke™ Hammer.

Books from John Jay Library

BOSTITCH

www.bartleby.com

We are proud to have America's

#1 cash rewards program.*

Because when you're talking about rewards, who wants the #2 program?

It pays to switch. It pays to

DISCOVER[®]

GoldCard Rewards[™]

4011 2222 3333 4444

1-800-DISCOVER
discover.com

Here's how we can save you thousands

"I got a quote from a contractor for the outdoor shower," my friend John said to me. "It was no grand." He shook his head as we sat there eating a cheap deli lunch. He was so thoughts that were crazy price, especially when he could do it himself! All he needed was to buy a new sliding componed never saw.

I knew where he was going with this.

"The new one was only a hundred bucks," he said, "the materials were a thousand dollars. So the way I see it, I came out forty-four-hundred-bucks ahead."

Yup, I know that calculation well. Banjo justified a table saw purchase to build a set of Adirondack chairs, but because you can get a pair of chairs for one-quarter the price of the table saw, I didn't come out anywhere near as far ahead as John.

You're familiar with this arithmetic too, I bet, right?

No doubt, and that's why this year, The Great TOH Giveaway is officially up for grabs all year long! It's because it gives readers like you a chance to shorten the typical home-owning equation of house-equals-expenses.

In the following pages, you'll see opportunities for chances to win some \$178,000 worth of prizes provided by manufacturers and retailers whose products we've learned this month. For example, our friends at Kohler have donated three different sorts of bathroom fixtures—one Victorian in style, one Craftsman, and one Art Deco—for a grand total of \$16,455 in prizes. They've added up a granite, and a Insert and kitchen sink, too. Heck, we could call it The Kohler Gold user, but that'd overlook the \$5,000 in cabinets we got from Quaker Cabinets, the \$5,800 in flooring from Lumber Liquidators, the KitchenAid appliances worth a total of \$7,070; the Transe whole-house HVAC system, with all the bells and whistles, valued at \$21,500, and—well, we're moving outside now—Anderson's \$5,000 worth of windows and doors, and James Hardie's \$11,000 worth of fiber-cement siding.

You'll find a lot more than that—there's something to win on nearly every page—including the tools you'd need to install any of it. Stanley and its sister companies, DeWalt, Porter-Cable, and Bosch, have donated \$5,000 worth of tools to outfit one winter's workshop. Imagine if my buddy John had dragged all those tools before his outdoor shower project. With his math, that'd be enough to build a white house and still cover our shed.



DIY WORK

The author is featuring up the Adirondack chair he built for "Kev" during a table saw he bought for the project.

See Giveaway

SCOTT OMILLIANO, EDITOR
scott@thisoldhouse.com

Ed: I instantly forget the biggest piece of all: a whole house! Preservation North Carolina has donated a house in the city of Goldsboro. See This Old House, on page 116, for the details. It's the prize in The Great TOH Giveaway. Check it out—it's great, indeed.

readermail

That perennial search for the perfect remodeling product brings us more e-mails than almost any other topic, and our June roundup of high- and bargain-end reproduction items hit the sweet spot with many readers. Others shared comments and solid advice in response to a couple of May's articles, as well as a graceful and thrifty adaptation of April's Weekend Remodel.

Reproduction products

"Patio Doors at Any Price" makes this issue a longest. What a great idea for making the most of a less-than-perfect pattern! I vote for making the tape a regular feature.

—MORTIMER BILLAY, COLD

I really like the format of that article. The "splurge or save" shopping is spot on and obviously took a lot of work and research, something I don't have time to do. Thanks.

—WILLIAM CARTER, REDDING, CA

The editors reply: We agree the money isn't well worth the effort, and you will likely see more such features in future issues. (Anybody interested, go to tinyurl.com/abnqz11.)

Tips for growing hydrangeas
Thanks for the great article on hydrangeas and how to care for them. We have two very large specimens in



our front yard, and everyone always comments on how beautiful they are. Your article helped me identify which species we have and how to help them look even better.

—PATRICK BLASKOVIC, CLEVELAND

Garden upgrades

I enjoyed your patio design ideas ("Building Blocks for a Perfect Patio," May), however, I would remind readers to check for buried utilities before digging. There is

usually one sewer that marks all utilities at no charge to the homeowner. Also, it's desirable to avoid building a solid surface over buried utilities in case future access is required. I take a picture of marked utilities for reference.

—ROB LIEUTENANT, HARTFORD, NC

Comments

In the Styling could for May's Paint Ideas, the full name is unpredictable (beehive) Lenn.



Repurposed trellis

ILLINOIS OCTOBER 2011

Our Weekend Remodel project "Build an Arbor Bench" (April, or find it at tinyurl.com/ageqj11) inspired me to refurbish a-vine trellis I built some years ago. My trellis frame was very similar to your plan's dimensions. Your directions allowed me to build the bench framework within my old trellis with no trouble at all. My vine espalier has a beautiful new focal point in our yard.

how-to readers tips

The editor:
THE CHIEF EDITOR:
magazine
1200 3rd Street, Suite 300,
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Or e-mail:
TODAY@HOME.COM
• Include your full
name, address
and phone number.
Published letters
are subject to
editing and length

Something alien to the
world of multigrain.
Taste.



Everything goes with Pringles Multigrain.

checklist

{ August 2011 }

EASY WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR HOME RIGHT NOW

□ Update safety gear

Observe National Safe at Home Week, which starts August 22, by stocking your house, garage, and car with first-aid kits. Make sure they're easy to spot in an emergency, and replace expiring items, such as painkillers, antiseptics, insulators, and adhesive bandages. Add missing essentials, like scissors, tweezers, and gauze. Finally, learn how to handle common on-the-job injuries at thesafeshouse.com/August22.



□ What's on your checklist?

I like having a string of lights hanging on my garage to brighten the backyard at night. (For a spider web look, I add a few more lights over.)

-Harry Viles, Roseville, Mich.

E-mail us your ideas at checklist@thesafeshouse.com.



□ Water smartly

Don't let the summer heat trick you into drowning your lawn. This time of year, cut back from a deeper but less frequent soak, so set your sprinklers to deliver enough water to penetrate the soil slightly below grass roots. Test them: run your sprinklers for 30 minutes, then dig a small hole to see how far the water has reached. For a more efficient watering routine, add a rain sensor to your sprinkler's timer.

TOH
TIP

□ Caulk exterior joints

Keep cooling air in and insects out of your house by sealing cracks around door and window frames, outdoor heaters, and openings for gas pipes and electrical lines. First, scrape out the old sealant, then fill it with a flexible polyurethane caulk, smoothing out the bead with the back of a spoon. Don't wait, and your home will stay airtight well into the winter.



□ Keep foliage healthy

High humidity can leave trees and bushes with a powdery mildew—a dusty gray or white coating that prevents plants from flowering and causes leaves to drop. To prevent it: thin out branches to increase air circulation, and remove any leaves with ash-colored spots. If you already have mildew, spray with a neem-based fungicide, available at most nurseries or horticultural supply stores.

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES; TOP: PHOTODISC/GETTY IMAGES



ONCE AGAIN, WE'VE TAKEN OUTDOOR LIVING TO A WHOLE NEW PLACE.

YOUR OWN PRIVATE ISLAND. A RETREAT THAT'S ALL MAGIC AND ALMOST EFFORTLESS. THAT'S TREX TRANSCEND. IT'S THE LEAD OF HIGH PERFORMANCE DECKING AND RAILING. BUT WE COULDN'T STOP THERE. SO WE ADDED NEW FINISHES WITH THE RICH LOOK OF TROPICAL HARDWOODS. WITH NEW LIGHTING AND COORDINATED RAILINGS TO SET EVERYTHING OFF. YES, THERE'S STILL A 25-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY AGAINST FADING AND STAINING. MATERIALS ARE STILL 100% RECYCLED. AND TREX OWNERS ARE STILL INSANELY HAPPY. SEE WHY AT TREX.COM.

Trex Transcend
OUTDOOR LIVING. ELEVATED.
TREX.COM | 1-800-BUY-TREX



Jobs and Home Ownership.



• 2.5 million American jobs created or maintained, in an average year of home sales*

• Each home purchased pumps nearly \$60,000 into the economy, over time!

• Home ownership accounts for nearly \$1 trillion of our GDP

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Q3 2011. *Data from 2010. Data for 2011 is preliminary. © 2012 National Association of Realtors®. All rights reserved. NAR does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or familial status. NAR is an equal opportunity employer.

America needs jobs.
Housing creates them.
HouseLogic.com/jobs



Official sponsor of the word "home."

home news (August 2011)

Here's another one of our picks from 2011's Best Old-House Neighborhoods:



South Fountain Historic District, Springfield, Ohio

- Price-uppers for under \$20,000
- A quiet college town with an impressive art museum
- Close to young professionals and young families

THE NEIGHBORHOOD: So what's become of us from coming home? Stephen Chircak used to reside there 15 years ago as they drove across their hometown of Springfield, Ohio. Good question. Anne thought, After living in suburban Atlanta for 27 years, returning to this picturesque city of around 30,000, stephen's wife, Anne, couldn't comprehend her off the things she loved about the place. She missed the college town vibe, as invited by Wittenberg University; the quiet, front porch and neighborhoods used to remind the charming Victorian-era



houses. Not long after the Chircaks purchased an enormous 1923 Prairie-style house in the South Fountain neighborhood of historic Springfield adjacent to the revitalized downtown. When the couple moved back to work, the Chircaks couldn't resist its original wood floors, columns, windows and fireplaces. The fact that the house cost just \$40,000 sealed the deal.

THE HOUSES: They're mostly Queen Anne, Italianate, Stick or Prairie-style houses built in the 19th and early 20th centuries by wealthy individuals or other middle-income employees. Every South Fountain house has a front porch, a deck or stoop and the first Saturday of each October during the neighborhood's Fall Patch Festivals. Prices range from \$75,000 for a lower-upper Folk Victorian to \$50,000 for a modern Quaker Area.

WHY BUY HERE? Gated up houses are being replaced by young professionals, many of whom work at Wittenberg or nearby Wright State. South Fountain is developing a great place to raise kids in a community-minded village-style environment. —KATHI PARROTT

SEEMS LIKE OLD TIMES: One of South Fountain's many front porch-lined streets. (TOP LEFT) The Chircaks' front of the Prairie-style house they purchased just \$40,000. (TOP RIGHT)

Find your
next home

Join the millions who have purchased a home through Realtor.com®. It's fast, free, and easy! Realtor.com® is the nation's largest online real estate marketplace.

America needs jobs.
Housing creates them.



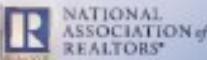
For every two homes sold, one job is created.*

Every home is built, bought or sold, American jobs are created. In fact, for every two homes sold, one job is created!* Thirty 3 million jobs, created or maintained. An average year of homes sales.

Strong federal government support for home ownership equals strong support for American jobs. The National Association of REALTORS® supports responsible housing finance reform and we believe that home ownership must play a pivotal role in growing our economy. Learn more today at HouseLogic.com/jobs

HouseLogic.com/jobs

© 2012 National Association of Realtors®. All rights reserved. NAR does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or familial status. NAR is an equal opportunity employer.



Official sponsor of the word "home."

Nature has something to tell you.



Thanks. The more efficient a system, the less energy it uses, and the better it is for the environment. The York Affinity™ Series Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps meet or beat the government's energy efficiency standards with SEER ratings of up to 18. Plus, Affinity models are available with eco-friendly refrigerant that is safer for the ozone layer. And all Affinity models are so quiet, you and your "outdoor neighbors" will hardly know when one's running. With Affinity, efficiency comes naturally. Call your York Dealer at 800-910-YORK, or visit york.com to learn more.



UP TO \$500 FEDERAL TAX CREDIT!

*Offer only available on select products. Call your participating York Dealer for details or visit york.com for more information.
Only available through registered York Dealers.

The eco-friendly York Affinity Series Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps



home solutions

Edited by Jessica Traedel Feder

Inside

10 USES

OUTDOOR LIVING IDEAS

REMODEL TIPS

MORE



SMART IDEA

Rope-hung daybed

Bounces may already be a thrill swing, but that doesn't mean it's too late to rig up some seating for your front porch. Built from 2x6s painted a bright blue and lashed with twine woven together to mimic dune fencing, the porch above has enough room and rope for a bouncy look. To hang your own daybed in a similar manner, you'll need four lengths of thick marine rope. Anchor eyebolts in all four corners of the bed's frame, and knot standard-duty shadels (from a marine-supply store) to them. Loop the rope through the shadels, splice it, then whip the entire splice with heavy wire. Insert 2x4 eye splices into the post holes, attach shadels, and do the same splicing and whipping at the other end of the rope to hang the bed frame from the ceiling.



chicken wire

Despite its name, this wire mesh is not just for corralling poultry. Here's how to put it to work in your home.

1 Open up a cabinet.

Replace the \$160-in. wood front of a cabinet doors with sheets of chicken wire to give a rustic look—and allow full airflow.



2 Support plants.

Cover the top of a potted plant with chicken wire to prevent climbing vines from taking between the stems.

* Make a nonslip ramp.

Wrap chicken wire around a board, then staple it to the back to create traction for wagons and wheelbarrows that need a leg up.

3

Stake growing veggies.

Fashion chicken wire into a cylinder by twisting the metal ends at the seam; then use the resulting cage-over-a-stake to support plants to help it stand tall.

4 Stake up fence posts.

Before setting a gate post or concrete steps, wrap chicken wire around the base to keep the anchoring and make the post more secure.

5 Contain shelf contents.

Attach chicken wire to the backs of free-standing open shelving units in

6 Sift garden soil.

Place chicken wire over the bottom edge of a trencher to sift soil before venturing under your house.

Photo: iStockphoto.com



* Hang tools.

Wrap chicken wire to a braced frame of 2x6s; weave small-hand tools through the holes so that they're easy to reach.

—JANETTE CHAPMAN

more 10 uses

Find more ways to use chicken wire at www.hgtv.com/designers-and-decorators/10-uses-chicken-wire

Photo © iStockphoto.com

"We love the way it dresses up our room! Our new floor makes the room feel warm and inviting."

Chuck, Spencerport, NY



Scan here to enter
to win \$5,000 of
Lumber Liquidators
flooring!

Dream Home
Lumber Floors

100% Virgin's Reserve • 25 Year Warranty

Mill-Direct **LOW** prices on
first quality, full warranty floors

For a FREE catalog or store near you,
call 1-800-HARDWOOD or visit lumberliquidators.com

HARDWOOD FLOORS FOR LESS!
LUMBER LIQUIDATORS
www.lumberliquidators.com
1-800-HARDWOOD



+ LANDSCAPING IDEA

Patchwork patio

Got an odd lot of bricks lying around the garage? Turn them into a custom patchwork patio instead. Instead of gathering pavers to cover your desired area or add on to an existing patio, if you don't already have enough bricks, check classified sites like Craigslist and eBay for leftover and salvaged materials. Then map out a design that alternates large pavers with smaller pieces. Create a proper base and lay the brick in various patterns, including running bond and herringbone. Leveling the pavers as you go. Finish by sweeping sand between the joints or lifting out a brick here and there for a planting spot. —D.F.



+ MONEYMAKER

Strike gold at your yard sale

In honor of National Garage Sale Day (August 13), Anna Stevny of Classifieds.com offers some tips to take in the big bucks:
 1. Title your event wisely. "Estate sale" or "Moving sale" implies that yours is beyond its owner's means, and even worse, may invoke a "garage sale," which evokes attics. Place ads in local newspapers, online as well as public bulletin boards. Reserve signs for the day of the event, and only include the seller's date, time, and a general address for its location.
 2. Offer discounts. While you shouldn't hand out 110% off without a catch, encourage people to expand their wallet with buy-one-get-one deals which let you indirectly advertise free goods. —D.F.



+ EASY UPGRADE

Bath redo by mail

A remodeling services firm will send you samples, renderings, and shopping lists to help you create your ideal bath. But Bath Simple takes things one step further by shipping everything you need for a remodel—from the tub to tile grout—directly to your home in a single container.

The free (and) stress-free shipping service starts at \$3,500 and ranges out at about \$35,000, depending on your bath's size and the materials you choose. First, a Bath Simple designer consults with you, either in person or by phone, to discuss a floor plan and style scheme using some of the 3,000 products the company offers from major brands such as Kohler, Toto, and American. Once you make your picks, it takes three to six weeks for your ready-to-install "bath-in-a-box" to arrive. Set up the layout of that new room on your own. The company will also find a licensed contractor to ensure the final result looks just right. —D.F.



MOEN
Buy it for looks. Buy it for life.[®]
moen.com

By the young, the average young adult washes their hands 43,600 times. Choose your faucet wisely.



+ GET ORGANIZED

Gain more closet space—without renovating

We consulted with closet design pros from across the country to learn the secrets to creating the ultimate storage unit. No power tools required! —DANIELLE BLANDOLI

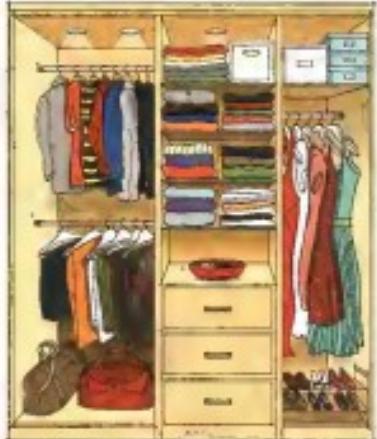
Double up.

Reserve two closet doors for hanging rods. To maximize that space, mount two sets of shelves— one will above eye level for long-sleeved garments, and one a little lower than 3 feet off the ground for shorter or flabbier items.

Position both at least 1 foot from the back wall.

Put small items in their place.

Designate a drawer (or bin on a shelf) for a pouch that holds all the odds and ends you've been saving (a keychain for loose change receipts, or other items that accumulate in your pockets).

**reader tip**

TIFFY KOMAR, VINTAGE, IOWA

"To keep track of all the screws, nails, and other hardware that come with ready-to-assemble furniture, I push them into a piece of the Styrofoam packaging. It allows me to easily count the pieces to make sure I have what I need, and prevents them from rolling off my work surface."

SHARE YOUR TIPS
Post them at thisoldhouse.com/tips

TO ENTER: Scrutinize with your coworkers for a chance to win \$1000.00 in Mitsubishi Electric systems for your home. Go to thisoldhouse.com/tips.

Add guiding lights.

Closets should never be lighting abysses, but use battery-powered stick-up lights (such as Dymon's Stick Its (\$12 for three; tinyurl.com/qzqjw3)) along the edges and under shelves so that you can find what you're looking for.

Divide and conquer.

Annotate shelves or folded clothes by taping sheet stacks to a height of 12 inches and partitioning them with over-hangers (see HighSmart's Smart Version (\$12 each; highsmart.com)).

Raise it up.

Only things that can be easily lifted or rolled over (such as a suitcase) should be stored directly on the floor; everything else should sit at least 18 inches off the ground to allow for regular vacuuming.

DON'T BEAT YOURSELF UP
OVER ENERGY COSTS.



Mitsubishi Electric systems offer efficient individual room control and allergen filtration with no ductwork—so you can be as comfortable as you want anywhere in your home. See the technology that ends the fight at mitsubishiconnect.com.

MITSUBISHI
ELECTRIC
COOLING & HEATING
LIVE BETTER

before + after:
kitchen

From cramped to family-friendly

From cramped to provided more light and flow, plus room to gather. Lots of white paint and wood tones give this space a vintage-style. DEBORAH BALOWSKI • PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREA JONES

There's a reason to opening up an old house. Sure, those small hallways and rooms can feel like back alleys and dead ends, but get carried away during demolition and you may sacrifice charm along with the original builder's privacy. Designer David Hand, known for his work on historic houses, likes to solve this problem by cutting and pasting walls while keeping period details. To improve flow in this 1908 foursquare in St. Paul, Minnesota, he added on in back, nearly tripling the kitchen's size. Then he reached new rafters to close in the existing bather's pantry and gave the space a clean, bounded-down look.

Homeowners Christine and Alain Dulcan opted for solid cabinet fronts over glass ones, allowing them to hold a desk and a TV in plain sight. "We have two kids, so there is always stuff around, but it never feels cluttered," says Alain. Barn-red walls, an oak floor and a warm beadboard ceiling warm up a room built in vintage white. "People come in," she says, "and have no idea it's new."

before: The small kitchen had just 3 feet of prep space and one window. **after:** Bigger and brighter, it now has tons of storage plus workspace with a perch at the bar.



**THE ADHESIVE BRAND TRUSTED ON
SUSPENSION BRIDGES, AND GARDEN SHEDS.**

For over 50 years, people have trusted the proven performance of Loctite® adhesives to stand up to the world's most challenging jobs. And that's a Loctite promise. Because for your toughest jobs, the best adhesive is the one you trust.

LOCTITE

RELIABLE PERFORMANCE. PROVEN RESULTS.





before

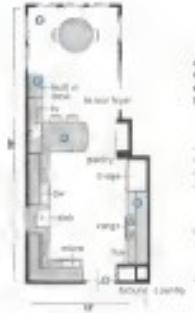
Just 100 square feet like this one was too small for an eating area on Island. A separate buffer a pantry built shelves, but there wasn't much storage.



after

Adding a room back and removing two interior walls enlarged the kitchen to 330 square feet.

-

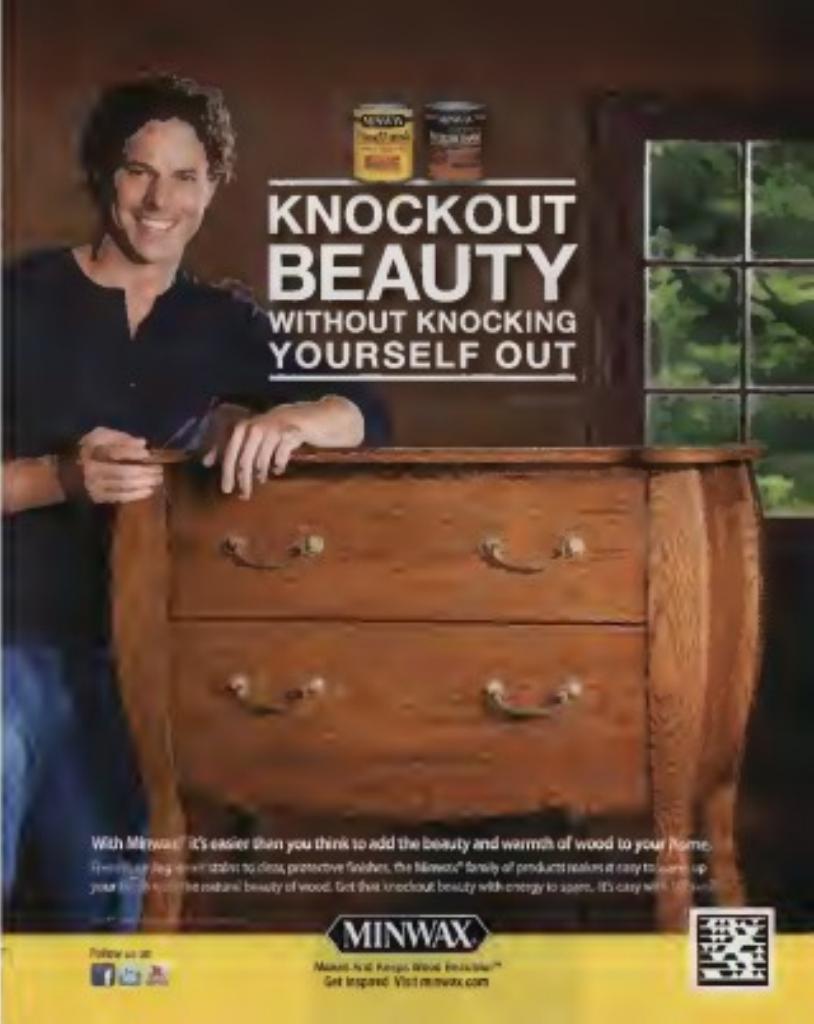


Covered the
closet well.
I feel so bad.
I have to go
now.

shift in a
C with a
friend like
you nearby

Pitcairn.
Height 3 feet
spars 5 feet
diam. about.

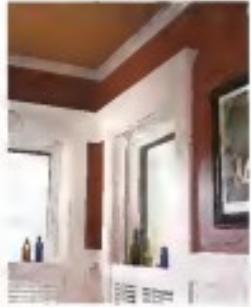
Covered the
closet well.
I feel so bad.
I have to go
now.



before + after: kitchen

• the key details

+ New window casings and corner molding need to be installed. Total cost: \$1,000. Photo by: Paul & Paul Photography. Styling: Marlene Fink, Blackbird.



+ V-groove paneling on the ceiling creates a warm atmosphere. Built-in track lighting and built-in shelves keep the perimeter look. Remodeler: Braden Luttrell. Photo: Michael R. Potts. Styling: Marlene Fink.



• Crisp white cabinets, softening light, and built-in place the Atlanta black granite countertop to pay off and raise Ross Fox American Design.

► bin-pull options
feature choose from
wood/metal
and/or glass.



+ A flip-up cabinet door adds height to serve the microwave. To do it, re-arrange the bottom 2 panels using the pegs and a bridge support. Cost: \$100 from Better Homes & Gardens. See page 14. Or go to blackbox.com/size.

If you can dream it, Marvin can build it. Explore your options at Marvin.com

For information on windows, go to marvin.com/window



MARVIN Windows & Doors

Built around you.

Put Your Windows to the Test

If your windows fail to pass this simple problem-detection checklist, it's a sign they probably need replacing.

Sometimes it's clear when your windows are failing. The glass is broken, they're stuck shut or need to be propped open on stormy days, they allow cold drafts, or ice or snow gets into your house. But there are other less obvious indications your windows may need replacing.

Look for These Telltale Signs:

- Your windows are single pane (and therefore, not very energy efficient).
- Your double-pane panes are cold to the touch on cold days.
- Paint around the windowsills or the exterior of the house is peeling (or significant improper seals may be allowing moisture to leach back outside).
- Frost, ice or condensation builds up on the interior glass (caused by inadequate insulation that allows a fast-quiet transition from hot to cold).
- Your rooms are dark and dreary or your exterior windows are dirty and mismatched.

Try These Simple Tests:

- Hold a lit candle at window's edge. If it flickers, you've got drafts.
- Tap the framework with a flat blade screwdriver. If it pushes easily into the wood, it's a sign of decay.
- Stand outside the window, shine a flashlight toward the entire window frame. If someone inside can see light coming through, you've got seal or caulk failure.

If your windows suffer from any of these problems, it's time to call your Marvin dealer. He can help you decide which replacement option is best for your home. When you're looking for greater energy efficiency, low-maintenance ease or a dramatic new look or an authentic replication, Marvin has a solution, custom-made for you.

Design-it-Yourself Options

Marvin® window and door solutions offer an endless variety of styles like designs, all-wood or aluminum clad interiors, screens, grilles and hardware finishes to give you the look you want.



Sash Replacement

If you've got the cash or hardware isn't replacement, the Marvin tilt & turn system is the least intrusive, most affordable and easiest-to-install option. An added bonus: Both sashes can be removed for easy cleaning.



Inset

If the trim is in good shape, but lighter performance or traditional interior aesthetics are desired, the Ultimate Inset Double Hung can be crafted to fit your exact window opening and installed without disturbing the exterior trim or exterior of your house.



Full Frame

When the entire window is fully determined or cut-off, square—or a totally new look and size is desired, a full frame replacement is called for.



MARVIN Windows & Doors
Built around you.

before+after:
bath

Sometimes your hands
could use a hand.



TOUCH2O® TECHNOLOGY, NOW IN THE BATHROOM.

Touch anywhere on the spout or handle with your wrist or forearm to start and stop the flow of water. Another way Delta is more than just a faucet! See the tag for your chance to win a Delta faucet in the Great This Old House Giveaway.



see what Delta can do



Moved and improved

Relocating the only bath allowed for a claw-foot tub and separate shower, plus a vintage cottage look that matches the home. BY DANIELLE HILLIGGS • Photography by WENDELL T. WILSON

Sometimes starting from scratch is the only way to go. When Brennan and Stephanie White first saw their 1920 Cape Cod cottage, they were taken aback by its only bath, a very narrow former pantry on the first floor. An avid DIYer with plans to reorganize the layout of the whole house for better flow, Brennan decided to move the bath into a hallway and create a master bath out of a spare bedroom in the house's sleeping porch addition, which dates to the 1940s.

He started by gutting the addition, tearing one new wall to create a workable rectangle for the bath, and laying a new plywood subfloor. Using chalk, the couple sketched a layout right on the plywood, figuring out where the tub, sink, storage shelf and cabinets would go, as well as an alcove for a shower stall. Then Brennan hung drywall, cut a new doorway, laid tile, and waited alongside a plumber and an electrician to set the fixtures in place.

Cool-blue walls, sand-colored marble floor tile, and white beadboard wainscoting give the new room a relaxing feel. "The bath is our safe place from all the dust," Stephanie says of ongoing work at the house. Her payoff clearly inspired them—they've already added a half-bath upstairs for guests.



before The once-existing bathroom had 1960s-style red-painted walls and a red vanity. **after:** Repainted and refinished with a vintage look, the new space fits in all the necessities.



[before]

before+after bath

• the key details

- The medicine cabinet, built by homeowner Brianola, is a perfect fit between a pedestal sink and a two-tiered vanity island with built-in lighting.



+ Custom-made latches from the original knobs were salvaged after years of public use and reused.



+ A laundry closet adds storage behind bedboard doors with countertop styling on the middle door for additional storage whenever a larger garment is present.

+ Subway tile reinforces the vintage look of the exposed shower inner paneled and pedestal shower fixture. Mosaic tiled floor.

• before + after

Relocated to an adjacent bedroom and now four times its former size, the new bath houses the master bedroom and even includes laundry without feeling cramped.

1. Built a wall to reshape the space, creating an enclosed shower stall.



2. Cut a doorway in the wall shared with the master bath, which became a hallway.

3. Placed the tub under the window on one end and access to the shower in a fixed panel. A shallow shelf adds storage for bath supplies.

4. Knocked the toilet out en route away from the door. Next to it, a built-in cabinet holds fresh towels.

5. Built a laundry closet next to the tub to fit standard units.

TO ENTER: Scan the key with your smartphone to check out a before-and-after video tour of this project. For details, visit www.hgtv.com.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE DIRECTOR PAGE 102

Cover with confidence.



You're using the most trusted brand of paint in the U.S.

When it comes to covering stains and old colors completely and efficiently, confidence does come in a can – and it's called KILZ[®] primer. Recognized by the Home Depot as the highest ranked brand in its category for four consecutive years,* KILZ primer reduces the chance that you'll be applying topcoat after topcoat. Cover with KILZ primer... and cover with confidence.



*2011 Home Depot's top-rated exterior stain-resistant paint. Home Depot and Kilz are registered trademarks of KILZ Corporation, a division of the KBI International Corp. Group. Study: Please go to www.kilz.com for further details.



landscaping



REAL SIMPLE | SOLUTIONS |

Storage with *style*

The Freestanding Shoe Organizer
Just one of the smart ideas available
in our new line of products that
make organizing your home easier.

SEE THE WHOLE LINE AT BEDBATHANDBEYOND.COM

AVAILABLE AT SELECT STORES

BED BATH &
BEYOND



AVAILABLE IN OUR LINE OF ORGANIZING PRODUCTS: HAMPTON BREEZE, KNOB CREEK, KNOB CREEK COUNTRY,
DEPARTMENT STORES, PHARIS SPANNERS, ELLIOTT PARKERS, PLATE BREAKERS

Flowers for late-summer color

A sunstepper mix of annuals and perennials yields a brilliant garden when the heat is really on

BY RANDI STUBER • Photography by TERRY TAYLOR

By August, most perennial gardens look more than a little weary. You can tidy up a bit by skipping off-spat flowers, but sorry-looking foliage may be all that's left. Yet even on the hottest days of late summer, a garden can be ablaze with color, as Kay Borodik's blushing garden proves. Shown here and on the following pages in a look at late August, the undulating beds are packed with combinations that work even in tiny yards. To get her glowing show of golds, reds, and oranges accented by whites and purples, Kay grows a well-planned mix of perennials and annuals—especially marigolds, whose seeds she saves and replants year after year, coaxing her nothing

like many guidelines. Kay started out modestly, with just a few small beds, and expanded gradually. Today, her flower borders look so stunning that people often pull off the road in awe when they are driving past her house, which sits on a rise in the mountains (take a tour of



uniquely beauty from familiar plants
ABOVE: Marigolds, asters, marigold, and gaillardia white
clarity reflect light in a robust late-summer show.
LEFT: Billowy Bergamot, Russian sage, and violet-colored
daphne battenberg create spreading clouds of color





Summer-loving borders
Reds, orange, and yellow marigolds with hot pink and purple in this shade-tolerant garden (TOP) and OPPOSITE TOP). A fountain base from a rugged aquifer adds the cooling sound of flowing water.

Standout annuals in Kay's garden

These annuals pump out new blossoms all fall. Most without plants becoming leggy or too leggy.

Ostrea (Deltia pumila)
Available in many colors. This small, heat-tolerant annual grows 10 inches tall and spreads by self-seeding and overwintering of stay-up babies that larger garden staples require. Grav. 6 to 18 inches tall. Full sun.



Marguerite (Tagetes)
Annual that loves heat, not cold, like types "Always" (7 inches) which grows 4 to 6 feet tall. "Firecracker" (7 inches) reaches 6 feet tall.



Despite the common names, both originated in Mexico and Central America. They thrive in full sun. Full sun.

Zinnia (Z. elegans)
Also a generally heat-loving, tall annual (up to 6 feet) that tolerates white, pink, salmon, yellow, purple, and even lime green. Flowers range from less than 1 inch to nearly 7 inches across. Grav. 4 to 30 inches tall, depending on variety. F. 60 days.



Bonnie Ferry has a sweeping view of the Selkirk Mountains.

The trick to having a lot of late-season color, Kay says, is to think in terms of waves of bloom. She bushes spring flowers, including swaths of bulbs, such as tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths. Then come the early-to-mid-summer bloomers, including mums, petunias, and poppies. The final flower begins with the late-summer bloomers you see here, including dahlias, black-eyed Susans, coreopsis, and zinnias, along with all those marigolds. An summer transition into fall, petunias and chrysanthemums join the show.

"My late husband, Vern, used to call it a 'three-wave annual harvest,'" Bonita says. "In early summer, we'd cut back the spring flowers, after they were spent. That was harvest number one. Then when the mums and poppies faded, we'd have another harvest for the compost pile." A final cleanup is late enough to not ruin the yard for winter.

These days Kay keeps up an amazing flower show on her own, thanks to time-saving tricks that reduce tedious chores such as weeding, watering, and deadheading. To minimize weeds, she mulches her plants cover all the soil, since exposure to sunlight is what triggers many weed seeds to sprout. She plants later summer flowers in the springtime, making transplanting in among the spring bulbs while they are still blooming. That way each transplant will grow into a mound that touches its neighbor in all directions, she plants densely, often in zig-zags rows.

Kay's planning strategy requires lots of transplanting—hundreds of them—so she grows her own from seed. She has a 14-by-20-foot greenhouse now but got by with windowsills for 20 years. She suggests that beginning gardeners start by buying nursery flats of annual seedlings and asking long-time gardeners if they have any potential plants to share. Kay has had people knock on her door with that question, and she's happy to oblige, since many perennials do better when they are divided periodically anyway.

Photo: Bonnie Ferry; Illustration: Michaela K. Gable



for steady spots
Begonias and baccharis. Baccharis is heat-tolerant, 8 to 10 feet tall, has light green, well-arranged fall foliage with colored berries and striking glasses.



Baccharis plant
(Baccharis halimifolia)
Native to central and southern states. Produces pink or purple flower spikes that resemble snapdragons. Common name refers to the way individual flower spikes (panicles) in whorls project like fingers. Hardy to just hardy to -40 degrees F. Full sun.



Jean-Pye weed
(Ageratum houstonianum)
An aster-like flower from pink to blue blossoms atop hairy 5 to 7 feet tall, hairy, evergreen, full sun to light shade in hottest areas.



Coreopsis flower
(Coreopsis cardinalis)
Native mostly to boggy areas of North America. Flowers in many garden beds with spikes of bright, long-lived red flowers. Hardy everywhere. Full sun or part shade.



Blanket flower
(Lesmis spectabilis)
Native to eastern and central states. Produces spikes up to 4 feet tall topped by white, lavender, or pink flowers. Hardy almost everywhere. Full sun.



Japanese primrose
(Oryzales japonica)
Bunches of wavy spikes with pink or white flowers in fall. Can spread to cover large areas unless well dug, uprooted, & reseverved. Hardy to -20 degrees F. with a thick mulch. Plant should



TO ENTER: See the rag tag your local landscaper has to offer. Send us a photo of your EASY-to-grow-and-maintain landscaping beds. For details, see page 14. Or go to Landscaping.com/IT



Eldorado. The Foundation for Memorable Spaces.

1.800.995.1491

ELDORADO STONE
ARCHITECTURAL STONE



THE MOST BELIEVABLE ARCHITECTURAL STONE VENEER IN THE WORLD

Vintage-look handshowers

They cut a convincing period profile while standing ready to hose down shampooed heads, pets—even the tub itself. Here's how two compare, starting with price

BY JEFFREY GOLDBECK | Photography by TOM MERRISON

Not so long ago, handshowers were viewed as a curious but integrated design solution that day's begun to prove that who's fire without a shower, whether providing a foot-tall tub with its only shower or an evening shower with a stand or a recessed. While many, built based on antique designs and made of solid brass, are hand-finished in Europe, the rest are made in Asia. Here's a look at their major differences, from low to left:

High-End

Rohl Perrin & Rowe
EDWARDIAN HANDSHOWER AND HOSE
IN BRONZE FINISH
Weight: 1 pound 11 ounces | [WardensList.com](#)

+\$560

\$136*

Strom Plumbing
EDWARDIAN HANDSHOWER
AND HOSE IN BRASS
Weight: 1 pound 10 ounces | [MemoryFireworks.com](#)

Budget

IS IT FOR YOU?
If you want a classic, intricate reproduction piece—steamy, tub-and-handshower.

showerhead
Gold-toned brassware and
bronze in England with traditional
plating for an antique, shiny finish. Includes a
long gooseneck spray. Wallmount or
ceiling-mounted showerhead. Gold-toned brass.

handle and hose
Cast-in brass-quality ceramic with
a smooth white finish and acrylic
rings. Heavy-duty brass hose
is surprisingly thick and heavy.

look and feel
Cast brass with a gold-toned
finish. It's 18 inches tall and
weighs 1.8 pounds. It has a
modern, minimalist design.



IS IT FOR YOU?
If you want a take-on traditional,
slightly smaller model that's
less likely to break your bank.

showerhead
Solid brass handshower heads are
made in Asia and imported to the
U.S. Brassware has a slightly
gold-toned finish. Includes a
gooseneck spray. Wallmount or
ceiling-mounted showerhead.

handle and hose
Made of ceramic porcelain with
a smooth white finish and acrylic
rings. Heavy-duty brass hose
is surprisingly thick and heavy.

look and feel
Ceramic shower head with a gold-toned
finish. It's 18 inches tall and
weighs 1.8 pounds. It has a
modern, minimalist design.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE [WardsList.com](#).

TO BUY THIS PRODUCT, SEE [MemoryFireworks.com](#).

get this look
for less

Open-air dining room

This outdoor spot brims with French country charm, thanks to a mix of weathered paint, fresh florals, and antiqued accents. Here's how to achieve a similar look in your home.

BY JESSICA DODDIE-FISHER • Photography by MARK LOPHAN

Eating outside doesn't always mean having to balance on a wicker bench or sprawl across a blanket. It can be an elegant affair, complete with all the comforts you'd enjoy indoors. Whether well-proportioned farm tables, simple storage, and vintage-inspired seating, this patio looks as good—and worth as many—hours dining outdoors. "The distressed finishes and painted ironing border recall the rustic of France," says California designer Lorrie McLean. "But beyond being pretty, this space is a fully functional outdoor eating area." Case in point: The table accommodates six, the sideboard conceals a wine fridge and bar, and the custom 8-foot-wide arbor, framed in reclaimed, circling timbers, not only reflects light but makes the entire room appear larger. Vintage watering cans and salvaged-wood birdhouses add a decorative touch and can do double duty in the garden. Want to put together your own space that's as beautiful as it is practical? Read on. ■

**galvanized
watering can**
With its classic shape and textured discarding, this vestal works just as well decorating a table as it does watering plants. \$20, [jessicadoddie.com](#)



**beach-thrift-style
sideboard**
Stunning, from fence-to-fence, this three-door server. Protect it from the elements with a coat of exterior polyurethane. \$200, [harmoniesinteriors.com](#)



nickel-plated cake stand
Give desserts a bit of glitz with James Cox British's pedestal-style stand, which comes with a hand-painted glass dome. \$150, [jamescoxbritish.com](#)



outdoor fabric
Stop shrinking over spills and salts in open-flamed tabletops made of vinyl and water-resistant material. \$20 per yard; [mobileneverwet.com](#)



icon folding chair
The gumbier-set's wide base, woven seat and backrest, and solid joints lend it the look of a well-loved antique. \$120, [wayfair.com](#)



strawberry-vine vase
Display summer flowers in this hand-thrown ceramic pitcher modeled after a piece of early American pottery. \$15, [dodgestrawberryvase.com](#)



**lotto
birdhouse**
At 2 feet tall, this eye-catching cypress nest makes an impressive centerpiece. \$10, [christensens.com](#)



tin-framed mirror
The new tin-framed panel tiles that surround this beveled-glass frame from Old Globe bring a sense of old-world rustic charm. \$100, [oldglobe.com](#)



TO ENTER:
Draw this tile watermark generator on a check-in slip at [oldglobe.com](#). Scan it with your smartphone to enter a lottery pool of other Old Globe ticketholders. See page 36 for grand-prize details.



painted farm table
Linen and white had rustic-country appeal until painterly pastels added. Inexpensive for a single item, it's \$150 per foot. \$75, [mobileneverwet.com](#); [kohler.com](#); [pinterest.com](#); [ebay.com](#)
Kohler Ultra Premium Exterior Luster Indian Teak and White Light \$45 per gallon. Luster Lumber

FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE DIRECTORY PAGE 34

Use a comb to create herringbone

Transform a tired surface with paint, tape, and a toothy tool.

By ERIC HAGERMAN Photography WENDELL C. WESNER

If you like the textured look of herringbone, see what a paint comb can do. Drawn a comb through wet-colored glass gives this plain laminate table an almost three-dimensional look. "This is one of my favorite tricks," says decor designer Laurel Lutz. "The best part is, if you don't like the way the pattern looks, as long as the glass is still wet you can just wipe it away and start again."

Lutz started out by sanding and priming the table, and putting down a base coat. She used a satin finish, which helps the glass coat go on and come off more smoothly. The herringbone pattern was created with equal parts latex paint and clear acrylic glaze. Glass slows the drying time, but when choosing a color, keep in mind that glass will also lighten it, Lutz says. To remove drops, wipe off the comb after each pass. When the pattern is dry, top with a protective coat of polyurethane.

Once you get handy with the technique, you can experiment with varnishes, eggshells, and emulsions and on other surfaces, from walls to flower pots. For a closer look at her herringbone how-to, read on. ■



paint comb

You can keep a regular 22-toothed comb (\$4.50; amazon.com) or make one by wrapping twine out of a plastic puffy bottle (\$1.00).

PAINT: Mykonos White (base coat); Sunray Heart (glaze); and Brooks Bay (wax)



TO ENTER:
Send us a photo of your creative use of paint! Email us at ideas@thefamilyhandyman.com. For details, see page 10. Entries must be received by June 1, 2010.

1. Find the center Once the base coat is dry, find and mark the center point of your surface with a measuring tape. You'll use this as a guide to section off the 3-inch painter's tape.



3. Apply the glaze Mix equal parts clear acrylic glaze and latex paint, and pour into a new water tray. Using a small foam roller, apply the tinted glaze, rolling in the direction of the tape.



2. Start the stripes Run a piece of tape across the center of the surface to one side of the pencil marks.



4. Combs the surface Set the comb at a 45-degree angle to the stripes, and pull it across the surface, cutting through the glaze. Repeat across the entire surface. If you make a mistake, just roll and recomb.

7. Spare the stripes Put down a second piece of painter's tape alongside the first, then a third. Now remove the middle piece and align it with the third piece. Add and then piece right alongside it, pull up the middle piece, and continue striping to create evenly spaced stripes.



6. Paint and add the second set of stripes Pulling at a diagonal, remove the tape while the glaze is tacky. Let dry. Cover the colored stripes with tape. Repeat Steps 4 and 5, drawing in the opposite direction at 45 degrees. Remove the tape and enjoy.

Our favorite new product picks

TOLL editors scoured the market for upgrades that make life easier, better, or just more fun, from a fits-anywhere fireplace to a sleekly coiled pot. "Washer faucet" to a seductive soaking tub. See something you need or just want? Look closely—you may be able to win it.

• luxe for less

With home centers expanding their lines and prestige brands strutting to offer value, high-style at a low price is more available than ever



—no chimney needed

Add a fireplace to your cook space without calling a mason. It's the Outdoor GreenSmart. Conceals a propane tank in a well-matched or hot and ready. Firebox fuelled by clean-burn gel, it's a great alternative to wood-burning fireplaces. \$479 at [amazon.com](#). [amazon.com](#)

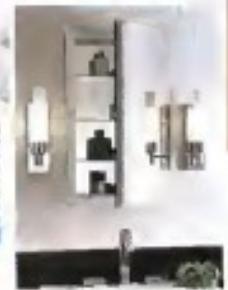
• instant bidet

Put in a toilet without tearing up the tile. Seagull Fixtures' sleek chrome Bidet Seat with Diverter lets you switch between just坐 (to fit) and just坐 (to introduce softening water, treat and heating, and dry off). \$320, [seagull.com](#).



• small, dark, and handsome

Fit this sleek cabinet with Armstrong's sleek-looking Casella Collection undercabinet pulls. In a new finish called Concrete (available in September), \$347 to \$532. [armstrong.com](#). [armstrong.com](#)



• lots of mirror, low cost

The door on Reverb's \$103 Slim is 34 by 18 to 40 inches wide and measures on both sides against 100 degrees for a wide view, and seals with a soft close. The recessed vanity light fixture (optional) mounts on cast glass shelves. \$399. [reverb.com](#).



• retro pendant

With its boldness, glass shades and atmospheric Italian-style bulb, this West of Provence pendant (\$1884.92) has the graceful ease of art deco. Hang one over the island or above the sofa over the sofa. \$229. [westofProvence.com](#).

DIRTGUARD™ REPELS DIRT, STAINS AND HIGH PRICES.

Repelling dirt, hardware and the toughest stains, Olympic® Premium Exterior Paint with exclusive DIRTGUARD™ technology keeps the exterior of your home cleaner longer than other paints. And it's backed by a lifetime guarantee. Just in case you need another reason to insist on Olympic® Paint, you can get all of this for a great low price. Learn more at [InsistOnOlympic.com](#).

INSIST ON OLYMPIC



LEARN'S

problem-solvers

Even great products can benefit from a little tinkering. The smart advances here promise to streamline daily life.

**+easy-metal task light**

Bypass the recessed and point-to-point undercabinet lighting with this sleek 1,000-lumen model. Battery powered, LED light, it sticks on with a motion detector and includes a motion sensor. \$149. tasklight.com

**+counter declutterer**

Storage is king, and this sleek, compact stainless steel tray from Dansk Design makes it easy. It's magnetic and fits most surfaces. \$35. danskdesign.com

**+a drain that stays clear**

Keep your drain debris-free—and your pipes clear—with this drain cover. It's made from a durable, flexible material that's thicker than the standard cover, so it's more durable, including UV-stabilized acrylic. \$42. draincovers.com

+marble that won't chip

Nothing diminishes the grace of the raw stone. But, given its delicate nature, it's important to choose a smooth edge and ensure proper installation. Look for honed and polished edges, such as the honed and polished edges shown here. Prices: \$34 per square foot. limestone.com

**+bath-fun bonus**

If you're not inclined to go high-end, try light-colored, natural stone. Not only is it sleek, but it's also very durable. This floor-mounted vanity and round pedestal tub set from Kohler features a sleek, polished chrome finish. \$1,699. kohler.com

+universal dimmer

Get maximum light control without the need for a switch. Costs are \$35. Century G.E., 15-watt incandescent bulb included. \$14.99. lowe.com

**+cabinet add-on**

Double-duty storage is ideal, or even essential, when it comes to a larger, tight-space space. KitchMe's Island Cart offers a compact way to store ingredients. Top with any number of items, from a coffee variety to flour, oils, styles, including the tapered leg Greenwich Model. \$150. kitchme.com

**+finishing touches**

Surfaces take on textured finishes; fixtures and furnishings stand out with graceful, sculptured shapes.

**+elegant hardware**

Unusual ornamentation is the hallmark of TapKnobs. Pewter Collection knobs and pulls. The Tuscan Bronze finish (shown) has an aged, old-world patina. From \$4.95. tapknobs.com

**+breakfast-nook natural**

Classic Shaker meets Danish Modern at This Month's *My Office* Round Dining Table. The piece's 48-inch solid-cherry top is composed around a layered base a combination seat/base. Its refinishing: \$1,195. transamerica.com

YOU COULD WIN IT!

**+non-slip floor tile**

Floor wood-grained porcelain Hecho "planks" by Aran looks West African. With its distinctive, organic grain, it's a natural in the master bath. Colors include (from left) Barn Wood, Yellow Birch and Antique Hickory. \$30 per square foot. arantiles.com

+soak in style

The 70-inch Tubscape tub from Valspar's "Athena" series is updated vintage looks and is set above floor. It's cast from solid composite that is half-porous ceramic and half-resin, so scratches can be wiped off. About \$1,245. pounds.it is big and easier to install. These cost from \$300-\$600. valspar.com

YOU COULD WIN IT!

**+rustic tap**

To keep your hands off the澹雅 River Rustic faucet, its plumply profiled surface and light-colored finish. Modern Bronze finish is just \$200. danza.com

**+water-milled" planks**

A spool-forming process gives Century's water-milled solid-wood Watermill flooring the rippled look of wave-shearing. Prices are set. From \$32.35 per square foot. watermillfloors.com

+ added convenience

From shortening footsteps to adding function, these products promise to make the day flow more smoothly.

+ dual-fuel cooktop

This double-unit has an 18,000 BTU gas burner, an energy-saving induction burner and a griddle in between. It's a versatile spot for thesembled meal; the drop-in is designed for quick cleanups. The KitchenAid 36-inch Design Series SupremeConvection \$2,159. kitchenaid.com



+ easier-to-handle pot washers

The sleek, right-angled front end of this 22-inch-high Quijana commercial-style faucet has a long reach, a springy touch-sensor neck, a spray head that clicks with the turn of a magnet. The sleek 2005 Monogramme series.



+ fewer trips for filter refills

With nearly 40 days H3000-E3000 water-cooler users can extend their filter life to produce purer water than other models. At \$1,150, it's a good suggestion to invest in a filter longer. (See "Refrigerator & Freezer" for details.) Not included: \$400 delivery cost.



+ flexible fridge

This AspireLine Series 8 four-door refrigerator boasts front-loading, adjustable temperature zones above the freezer, and space-friendly water dispenser that will give you instant access to the cup or bottle. It's part of the AspireLine refrigerator family, which also includes the AspireLine Pro, Plus, One, Basic and Cool families.

TO ENTER: Qualifying buyers may enter online at www.directbuy.com from April 1 through May 31, 2010. Void where prohibited. © 2010 DirectBuy.com, Inc. All rights reserved. DirectBuy.com is a registered trademark of DirectBuy.com, Inc. Other brands and product names are trademarks of their respective companies. DirectBuy.com is not affiliated with the manufacturer of the products mentioned in this promotion.



HERE'S HOW DIRECTBUY SAVES YOU MONEY



IT COMES DOWN TO CONFIDENTIALITY.

The reason DirectBuy can offer such low, low prices is because we don't advertise them. Our suppliers ask that we keep their pricing confidential until you visit a showroom, and we honor their request. It's just the price we pay to give our members the unbelievable prices they pay.

Visit an Open House to see for yourself how a little confidentiality can save you thousands!

**CALL NOW
TO RECEIVE YOUR
FREE VISITOR'S PASS**

**1-800-637-1720
OR VISIT DIRECTBUY.COM**

ONE MILLION PRODUCTS | 700 TOP BRANDS | ZERO HIDDEN RETAIL MARKUP

DirectBuy



NEED HELP WITH A PROJECT?



Replacing a Water Heater



Installing Solar Panels



Marinating a Clam Chowder



Upgrading Kitchen Cabinets



Installing a Fireplace Insert



Turn to *This Old House* during August for expertise with these projects, and many more! For local listings visit ThisOldHouse.com/WhereToWatch.

AvalonTV on PBS, presented by

**Ask
This Old
House**

Sponsored by
GMC



STANLEY



For virtual assistance
call 1-800-448-4322

3 baths, 3 styles

If you want to add vintage charm to a new washroom or polish to a period one, look to Victorian, Craftsman, and Art Deco designs for inspiration. **By DANIELLE ELLIS**

Shaped oak-wood claw-foot tubs, hexagonal floor tiles, and chrome cross-handle fixtures are the go-to pieces for crafting modern bathrooms with timeless appeal.

In wide rotation since the late 1800s and early 1900s, when the Victorian, Craftsman, and Art Deco styles reigned in succession, these fixtures and finishes look so good and function so well that they've left little room for improvement, even after all these years.

For help pinpointing even more design elements to guide your own classic bath room renovation project, the editors of *This Old House* created the following primer on the three most influential and enduring styles of the past.



VICTORIAN

With cleanliness at the heart of the Victorian-era design philosophy, bathrooms built between the 1860s and 1930s often

feature an all-white color scheme with marble accents and free-standing fixtures.

1. Scrubbable surfaces

Smooth marble or granite floors and walls aren't the only materials that can be polished—plaster walls are also great for creating a smooth surface.

2. Exposed pipes

From exposed pipes to decorative plumbing fixtures, this style is all about showing off what's underneath.

3. Furniture-style fixtures

Furniture-style fixtures like pedestal sinks and clawfoot tubs are designed to look like pieces of furniture.

YOU
COULD WIN
a Victorian-inspired bath
suite from
Kohler
Valued at \$8,000



CRAFTSMAN
↓

- *Pteridium aquilinum* (L.) L. (bracken) which was
brought into the UK in 1906. It is a coarse often fern-like plant
with fronds and very bold leaf-arrangement as well as black-pelleted
sporangia and moistened spores with botanical motifs.

*Mand-brew
barbecues* Light
fixtures and cabinet
hardware made
of wood or
stainless steel
or wrought iron
For many years
these products have
been popular in the

- 2. Määratsev
ebecke** Või Eesti
määratsev ebecke
koodi alusel määratsev
ebecke on üldse mõlema
Eesti riigi ja omavalitsust
üle kõikide haldus- ja
hallitusorganite

- 3 Earth-toned color palette**
Paint in copper and terra-cotta-hued glazes, apply fused patches and built-up relief decorations throughout colors and textures.

- Geometric results: Dynkin's theorem vs. the square or diamond tangle theorem, and the corresponding rectangle theorem for rectangles recorded during evolution; simple tools to cover the main tangle theory and Dynkin's theorem; Wellmann's diagrammatic

ART DECO

- Kansas built
from 1920 to 1940,
she's had Art
Deco-style bathtubs
with colorful
wall and floor
tile Chevrons
and Art Deco
arched
tiled glamour.

- 7 Bathing services**
Required: Who will
be available to assist
swimmers stand up
from their seats and
leave the swimming
pool? Is there a
handicap accessible
area? Are there
other areas?

- Wild life** has
and birds are to be seen in
various species and
habitats in Charles' of
enthusiastic guides have
been paid. A trail
is gathered by the
wild-life keeper
is hunting, angling,
or bird-watching.

7. Bremseaktion
Radiosender Potsdam
1945-1949 a. u. b.
CD 00000000000000000000000000000000

- 7. Reflective
thinking** is used
to reflect on and
summarize their
prior knowledge
and skills prior to
beginning a new
topic.



**YOU
COULD WIN**
an Art Deco-
inspired bath
suite from
Kohler.
Details page 15.

Dressing up a flat facade

A proud new porch and ornamental trim give a plain bungalow a gracious new look.

BY ERIC BATEMAN • ILLUSTRATION BY HOWARD DIBBLE



"It was kind of our dream house," says Lucas Warkent of this 1932 Colonial Revival in Middletown, Ohio, which he shares with his wife and daughter. "It's obviously a fixer-upper." After reworking it for two years, the Warkents finally bought the place and then gut-remodeled two baths and the kitchen without losing any help, but when it came to the plain, one-dimensional facade, they were puzzled as to how to proceed.

For inspiration, we called architect Darren Holzman, who encounters all sorts of Colonial Revivals in his Amherstburg, N.Y., practice. "Some-day two-story bungalows run the gamut from basic early-American styles to more embellished Federal homes," he says. "This house can afford some nice touches of ornamentation."

To start, he suggests adding a new porch for depth and a more formal entrance. Pilasters at the corners will frame the doors, and dental molding under the eaves and below the porch corner introduce classic cornice-building detail. Working together provide texture and balance, and classic copper gutters set off the look upstairs. "Pretty sharp," says Lucas of the proposed changes. "It's definitely what we'd like to go with the house." ■

Finishing touches

Horizontal-color siding lets detailed add-ons shine, +



sidings

Bleach-colored lap siding stands up to weathering extremes. James Hardie about \$1,50 per square foot.



door knockers
A classic brass door knocker features a decorative floral base. Brainerd, \$40.



windows
Double-pane wood windows insulate for better energy efficiency. Anderson about \$1,700 per window.



TO ENTER:
Visit [thisoldhouse.com](http://www.thisoldhouse.com) for details.
Grand prize:
\$10,000 worth
of James Hardie
horizontal siding and
other exterior
ornamentation.
For rules to enter,
[visit \[thisoldhouse.com\]\(http://www.thisoldhouse.com\)](http://www.thisoldhouse.com)

CATCH UP WITH THE CREW



Montauk and Los Angeles Projects airing now. For local listings, visit ThisOldHouse.com/TVchedule.

Directed by EMMETT GIBSON Presented by



This
Old
House

© 2004 The Old House Company, Inc. All rights reserved. Call 1-800-448-1944.



GMC



State Farm



Trane



John Deere



Dish Network

Porch storage bench

Cover your garden bins with this handsome piece of outdoor furniture that cleverly conceals them under a lift-up seat. BY JENNIFER STIMPSON • PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES COARRELL

An outdoor bench makes a convenient place to sit down while you remove muddy boots. You'll rest even more knowing it can store a garden hose (or two) and other less-than-pretty supplies.

You can buy a bench that echoes your home's style, but finding an affordable one may be harder than it sounds. Or you can opt to build one like this from an all-new cedar or pine. Lift up the seat and you'll find a floor made of hardware cloth, a galvanized metal screen that allows water to escape, so you don't have to worry about坐ing a hole before it drains. The angled backrest, with its decorative curve, adds to the interesting aesthetic of a piece that's as functional as it is whimsical. Read on to learn how to build the piece on; if you prefer, how far your dollar will stretch in the patio store. ■



build it yourself
Find a detailed list and a resource tool needed to build this bench at [shedsandbenches.com/August22](#).

build it

Customize the size of this exterior bench to suit your space—and your storage needs

1. Cut the pieces. Cut your cedar stock into assembly pieces according to the cut list at [shedsandbenches.com/August22](#). Make an notch across the upper backrest board and cut it with a jigsaw. Make and cut an angle into the top half of two backrest pieces to create the backrest slope.
2. Build the legs. Fasten the pieces of each front leg into an L-shape, with the front (bevel) overlapping the edge of the narrower side board. Build the back legs with the side boards overlapping the edge of the backboards, angled edges forward.
3. Assemble the bench base. Attach a 1x2 cleat flush with the bottom edge of the bottom boards for the base. To build the base, fasten two long boards to the inside of the front legs, and two more to the back legs, equal height from the back legs. Sandwich the side pieces between the front and back and fasten them to the legs. Drill a hole in the back for a hinge.
4. Cut and insert the hardware slots. Using 1x strips, cut the hardware cloth and secure to the 1x2 cleats with a staple gun and 1x-brads staples.
5. Attach the seat and backrest. Attach the stationary hinge strip between the back legs. Secure two batters across the underside of the seat boards to hold them together. Attach piano hinges to the front edge of the hinge strip and the back edge of the seat. Screw the backrest boards to the angled end of the back legs, and attach a hook-and-eye latch to hold up the lid.

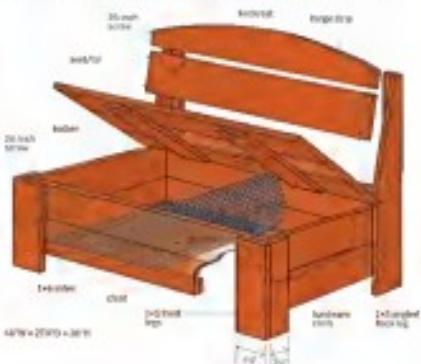


Diagram by Sheds and Benches

Costs: \$130 (using 1x6 cedar);
Time: 8 hours

Complexity: Easy. (Remember, cuts and construction make this a management project; factor in time and cost for dry-fit.)

buy it

Bud-resistant wood is a must; beyond that, you're paying for style and design

\$148+

basic

The clean lines and generous storage area of this economy storage bench make it perfect for storing outdoor clothes. [walmart.com](#)

\$195+

mid-range

This rustic bench houses three drawers for storing tools, pots and plants, and comes with a weather protective finish. [evergreenfurniture.com](#)

\$250+

luxury

A traditional lift-top seat makes this one of several tropical hardwoods; a particularly comfortable option. [jordansbenches.com](#)



Unbeatable power protection now beats energy costs, too.



**APC
Legendary
Reliability**

Only APC Back-UPS delivers unsurpassed power protection and real energy savings.

Today's cost-saving Back-UPS

For years you've relied on APC Back-UPS[®] to protect your business from expensive downtime caused by power problems. Today, the re-engineered Back-UPS does even more. Its highly efficient design reduces energy use... so you save money every time you plug it in. Only APC Back-UPS guarantees to keep your electronics up and your energy use down.[™]

Unique energy-efficient features

Power saving cuts off power to unused devices when your computer and peripherals are turned off or on standby. Automatic voltage regulation (AVR) reduces the undershoots and overshoots without using the battery. With our patent-pending APC Engine, the inverter starts in only when needed and automatically switches back to power from the wall. Plus, APC Back-UPS reduces energy consumption when power is present and switch on/off when the lights go out. Together, these power saving features eliminate needless electricity usage, saving you about \$10-\$15 a year. And managing today's Back-UPS couldn't be easier. The integrated LCD panel provides diagnostic information at your fingertips.

Trusted power source for all your business needs

The newest Back-UPS provides reliable power protection for a range of applications from small desktop computers to large server networks to external storage. The new APC Back-UPS is the trusted insurance you need to stay up and running and reliably powered from both unpredictable power and energy costs.

Keep your electronics up
and your energy use down![™]

With APC Back-UPS you can eliminate unnecessary downtime and maximize capacity that best suits your application, and minimize overall costs from unexpected power-causing disasters to reduce costs.

The high-performance Back-UPS Pro series not only reduces costs but offers the latest in energy efficiency technology. APC Back-UPS Pro units are designed to use less power in a wider range of operating conditions than other APC Back-UPS models, decreasing energy usage by 10-15%.

The energy-efficient UPS 700G

The UPS 700G offers three levels of protection, which automatically turn off the inverter after the inverter reaches its life limit. The UPS 700G also includes an energy monitor security mode:

- 21 outlets
- APC engine: 700W
- 120V output voltage
- Circuit breaker protection

The Back-UPS 630 5000

The UPS 630 5000 offers an integrated design that increases data center energy savings through energy use reduction in its static, using power to your facility.

- 21 outlets
- 120V
- 420 minutes maximum runtime
- Standard outlets



APC
by Schneider Electric

Enter to win one of seven Back-UPS BR 700G units (\$100 value)

Visit www.apc.com/lyricm. Key Code: TOH-TV • Call 888-328-APCO x3001 • Fax 401-789-2767



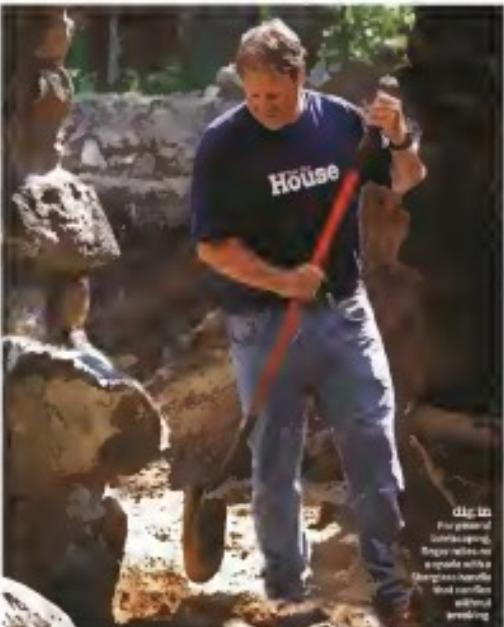
Tools of their trades

The TOH TV crew dishes the dirt on the essentials they use at every job site—so you'll know just what to look for at the hardware store. BY KAREN MCGOWAN • Photography by ANTHONY TESSA

mark, they're masters of their respective crafts, but there's one thing that the TOH TV crew has in common with all DIYers: They rely on a handful of well-made tools for nearly all the projects they tackle. We asked each of them to spill the beans on the five tools they can't live without and the must-have features that make them useful. Whether you're starting a roof or a garden from scratch or just replacing a few items, their nose-tested tips will guide you to all the right choices.

Roger Cook LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Roger relies primarily on hand tools. (1) His go-to landscaping shovel has a spade head and a flexible fibreglass handle. Wood handles can snap when you're prying up rocks and stumps. (2) A must-have for flower beds is an adjustable action pruner. (3) Pack your bags via a wheelbarrow. (4) Agriculture has a heavier-duty blade than a garden hoe, which helps break up hardened soil. "He says. (5) He prefers using tarpaulin for sheeting plantings. (6) While he usually prefers fibreglass handles, Roger finds a wood handled level head cast iron more comfortable for spreading soil and mulch. (4) For weeding, pick up a combination hand cultivator and weeding hoe with a head and trench forged from a single piece of metal. The two heads touch to eliminate digging. (5) Last, don't forget a rugged plastic wheelbarrow. It's lighter than steel, won't rust, and will save your back," he says.



dig in
The power of landscaping. Roger uses a spade with a fibreglass handle that scratches without breaking.



Norm Abram •
MASTER CARPENTER



CHAD HARRIS
says it's a worthy
little tool for a
drill, a utility knife,
and a little you can
spare when a
project goes wrong.



Pelline Norm's hand and pick tools that offer useful features and precision. (1) He keeps a micro-blade utility knife on hand for opening boxes or other lightweight tasks. "It's sharper than a kitchen knife," he says. (2) For cabinet-cabinet used for soft-close door-to-door walls, he relies on a good-quality compass with locking parts that won't drift out of place. (3) Norm says a compact, lightweight 12-volt model "Don't bother with a bulky 18-volt version," he says. "Today a lithium ion drill has enough power for most projects." (4) To check the accuracy of your cuts, Norm uses a 12-inch combination square at 45 degrees and a 4-inch square for stop-cut furniture projects. Both have dead heads, which are a standard plastic or cast metal. (5) Precise crosscuts for trim and molding call for a miter saw. Norm recommends a 12-inch compound saw that switches both directions for mitring. (6) For leveling, and has a built-in laser guide for accuracy. (7) His square up-saw has dual blades, one on each side of the blade.)



Richard Trethewey
PLUMBING AND HEATING EXPERT

The hand's must-have tools include both specialty and general purpose items. (1) If you do your own pipe bags (or want to), Richard recommends a long-handled basin wrench for fiddling with impossible-to-reach sink fittings. It'll save your knuckles from getting scraped up, he says. (2) A knife, tubing cutter, which lets you slice through metal or plastic pipe, is useful for tight quarters. (3) No homeowner should flee without a pair of vise-grip pliers. "The adjustable jaws can fit around pipes of any diameter, and they offer plenty of torque for tough tasks like loosening valve or nuts," Richard says. The jaws should have ratcheting teeth that grip well. (4) Instead of carrying several screwdriver handles along in a 11-in-1 multi-bit screwdriver, (5) Richard always keeps a cordless drill in the ready-for-tools bag that a screwdriver can't handle.



TO ENTER > Scan the big will you receive for a chance to win a \$100 gift certificate to the Home Depot Building Supplies Power Cabinet and Toolkit. For details see page 14 or just go to tinyurl.com/normtv.

Tom Silva
GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Years of road-testing have helped Tom refine his tool choices. (1) To save time while working, he always wears a tool belt. "A good belt is easy to adjust, with pockets that are comfortable to reach into," he says. He includes even his grilling tools (whether propane) from a store-bought belt rather than old nail belt. (2) Through you surely over whatever you already have requirements a wood-handled straight-claw hammer far most tasks. "A 16-ounce hammer has plenty of heft but isn't too heavy," he says. And the wood handle vibrates less than metal or plastic, so it's a pleasure on hands and arms. (3) Tom reaches for his 12- and 20-foot tape measures frequently. He prefers ones that lock in place when extended. (4) A speed square holder (chipper) his tool belt keeps this handy device at his fingertips. Turns you use often should be attached to a vise-like attachment, "he says. (5) He always carries a multi-tool with pliers, screwdrivers, and files for working on tight spots or making repairs on the go. ■



PRO ADVICE
Tom's tool belt
keeps all his
essentials
organized and
ready to work.



For over 50 years, people have trusted the proven performance of Loctite® adhesives to stand up to the world's most challenging jobs, from jet planes and race cars to the space shuttle.

And there's a Loctite specially formulated for your important job too, whether you're building a deck, installing a hot tub surround or repairing a vase. To find the Loctite that's right for your next project, from Super Glue to Construction Adhesives, visit loctiteproducts.com.

**Loctite Trusted Performance.
Proven Results.™**



The Lighter Side of This Old House



- World's Wildest Houses
- Wackiest Home Products
- America's Funniest Contractors

thisoldhouse.com/august11



facebook.com/thisoldhouse



@thisoldhouse

Scan here for
a chance to win
one of the
funniest Loctite products!



Dremel Multi-Max
is the first power
hand tool with
variable speed
and torque control.



Lightweight & Powerful

Dremel Multi-Max Power Tool is a lightweight, powerful cordless vacuum with dual technology for cleaning messes. Its "Telescope Reach"™ hand extends 15.75" for high reach cleaning. Dremel includes 100% Micro-Swirl Microscopic Filtration. And Best of all, Dremel vacuums it has "Root Cyclone"™ technology which captures mess dirt and dust. Visit dremel.com for lots of auction. clyman.com



Get Tough!

Scotch® Tough Duct Tapes deliver the strength, durability and quality you come to expect from 3M. Featuring six premium products, there's a Scotch® Tough Duct Tape to meet your most demanding applications. When conditions are harsh and projects are tough, Scotch® Tough Duct Tapes are even tougher! ScotchToughTape.com



Fireplace Craftsmanship

For over 40 years Colorado Stone® has demonstrated an undiminishing passion for creating authentic products that elevate quality design and craftsmanship. Our commitment to this philosophy continues with our striking collection of Colorado Fireplace Surrounds. Available in several products to suit a wide variety of architectural styles. [coloradosstone.com](http://coloradostone.com)



Gain "Green" Be Any More Gorgeous?

Roons, basins, bathtubs, showers, and more! Crafted with long-lasting and old style wall paneling from recovered second cedar logs, and flooring from recycled Antiquo Heart Pine. In beautiful wood planks. Other antique wood products include MARY PATRICK, random and custom millwork. www.woodworks.com



Presenting ARBORCOMPT

Berliner-Morris ARBORCOMPT™ premium low VOC waterborne deck and siding stains are easy to apply and will get the best colored stains on the market. For a free test sample coupon, go to berlinermorris.com/arborcomptsample



The Perfect Garage

Turn to the garage leader when you want a space that's all your own. Gladiator® Garages offers often unique products from cabinets to wall systems that can handle the harshest garage environments. Plus our signature Third Plate design is unavailable. It's Time to Redefine the Garage! gladiators.com



Kwikset SmartKey®

Kwikset's SmartKey® key technology provides you the ability to rekey your own locks quickly and easily without removing the locks from your door. And thanks to our patented SmartGuard™ technology, SmartKey locks are virtually uncopyable. Discover the smart way to take control of your home security at kwikset.com



This Old House Wants You!

Did you know you can influence what This Old House includes in our magazine? Simply go to tinyurl.com/thisoldhouse to register. As a Home Team member, you'll help us improve our magazine and website, and you'll receive exclusive offers, plus the chance to win This Old House notebooks, t-shirts, gift cards and more.

“I can recommend a stain that will make both you and your deck look great.”

—Jimmy Pandalis—
Benjamin Moore Retailer



benjaminmoore.com/ARBORCOAT

Anyone can stain like a pro. You just need the right advice. And the right stain. We can give you both. Benjamin Moore® ARBORCOAT™ line of premium, low VOC waterborne deck and siding stains are

easy to apply and outperform the best alkyd stains on the market. Let us help you pick the right stain for your project so it gets the protection it deserves. And you get the credit you deserve.



For a free print sample, coupon download & QR reader at your APP stores.



Make a hypertufa table

This rugged stuff can weather spilled drinks, sticky hands, and even lunch waters. Use it to make a versatile outdoor table that will last for years. By ANNEKE JAHNSEN • Photography by MICHAEL T. WILSON

COSTS \$40

TIME: 8 hours plus curing time for the tabletop

DIFFICULTY: Easy. Even novices can cast the tabletop and carefully stretch the

If you've never heard of hypertufa, it's an explosive mix of concrete look-alike in the perfect material for an outdoor table. Made from a mix of cement, peat moss, and perlite, hypertufa has much of concrete's strength and durability, but it weighs a lot less, doesn't require sealing, and has a more informal, organic appearance. Senior technical editor Mark Powers cast a tabletop with a recess for adding carry-on-style cutouts and designed a matching side base that can be taken apart and stored flat. His project requires a few weeks to prep, so get started now and you'll be able to show off your handiwork next summer.



For complete
instructions,
[turn the page](#)

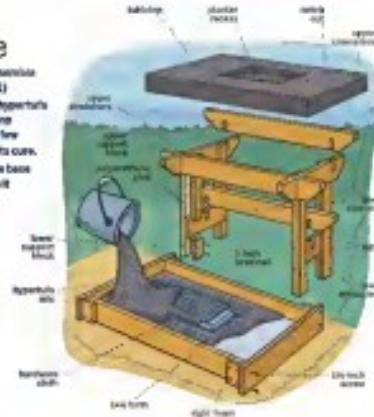


Project timeline

PREP DAY Cut and assemble
the front flaps (1 and 2).

SATURDAY Make the yogurt mix and start the baking (Steps 3 and 4). Wait a few minutes for the batches to come

SUNDAY: Assemble the base and set the table-top unit (Steps 5 through 7).



book

- water saw**
jigsaw
utility knife for trimming
wire snips
sawing bar to hold the top of surface
brush
chip brush to spread petroleum jelly
on the exterior of the base before
coating it with soap

Number

- materials**
1-Lx4 scrap lumber for the form
center bolts for postspacers/level
staples
water 1/2in for legs and support blocks
1/8 inch and 1/2in deck screws
putty
gutter hags
postsealant
Get nail lagging
postlevel comment
Get 1/4in countess
acrylic fortifier for the postsealant
soil stabilizer
topsoil
topsoil
potting soil or cooking spray
Gutter hags
Decking
1x6 and 1x8 lumber
plastic sheeting
binder
the form is in the little top corners
polyurethane glue, such as Gorilla Glue
1 inadhesives
stud mask and painter's gloves



1. Assemble the form

A. Cut the pieces for the frame. Refer to the CUT LIST on this page for cutting dimensions. Use a utility knife to cut along

12. Secure the form top edges. Place two 1½-inch blocks with their ends at each long side. Secure them by driving 1½-inch screws through the blocks and into the long sides. Sandwich the long sides between the short sides with the blocks facing outward as shown. The ends of the short sides adjust the blocks so that the form can be pulled apart easily whenever tape has to be cut. Marks indicate for pilot holes on the tops of the short sides and at the edges of the blocks. Drill ½-inch pilot holes through these marks. Secure the form to the base with four 1½-inch screws spaced at the short sides.

Tip: You can make the tabletop longer or wider than ours. Just do it so that it's easy to walk around underneath or underneath to the base for support.



2



3. Make the hypertufa mix

4. Combine the dry ingredients: Measuring a dusting rack, put 1/2 quart each of cornmeal, flour, sugar, and baking powder in a large bowl. Add the salt and pepper.

A. Add water and make the mix. Add few cups of water to the dry ingredients and use a wire whisk or an immersion stick mixer to combine thoroughly until no lumps remain. The consistency should be similar to a thick pancake batter. If the batter will not hold together, add a small amount of acrylic fiber to the mix according to the manufacturer's instructions. To prevent the tableau from cracking:



APPLIED MATHEMATICS

which we make it.
See a full step-by-step video tour of the service and its unique value add.
[View the video](#)



4. Cast the tabletop

A. Fill the form. Lay the form on its side with your arm up or looking down so that the tabletop can be easily leveled. Add epoxy putty and lay the form flat hollow. As you work, use a wood block to level the mix and tap the form with a hammer to get rid of all bubbles.

B. Place the wire mesh. Lay the large piece of wire mesh onto the mix so that the edges around the perimeter bend upward. Add maximum strength by covering no more than every 12 inches of wire mesh with epoxy putty.

C. Finish filling the form. Add more to the form until the mix is smooth. Let it dry, applying a few light coats of clear bubbles as you need. Cover the form with plastic to retain moisture for a slow, steady cure. Let the tabletop cure for at least seven days.

5. Cut the base's parts

A. Cut and notch the boards. Refer to the cut list in this article (see page 11). Cut cedar legs to size for leg supports and stretchers. Use a miter saw to cut the ends of the stretchers and upper crosspieces at opposing 45-degree angles, and clip 1 inch off the long points of each.

B. Cut out the notches. Refer to the diagram on page 12 for the dimensions of the notches (page 12) along the stretchers, across the top (page 12) edges of the crosspieces. Each notch will wind back and will extend to half the width of the board or 1½ inches. (See the cut list at [woodshop.com/epoxy55](http://www.woodshop.com/epoxy55) for notch dimensions and sizes.) Mark the notches with a snap-on block turned on edge, and make the cuts with a jigsaw.



5



6

6. Build the base

A. Dry-fit the table. Place an upper crosspiece at a work surface, notches facing upward. Place legs below it with their tops resting on the crosspiece, and align the outer edges of the legs with the inner edges of the notches. Lay upper support blocks on the upper crosspiece and adjust until they're flush at the top and 1½ inches from the notches. Lay lower crosspiece onto the legs with the notches facing upward, aligning the upper support blocks flush with the legs' outer edges. Lay lower support blocks onto the legs, abutting the lower crosspiece and flush with the legs' notches. Repeat for the remaining legs.

B. Assemble the sides. Drill 1/8-in. pilot holes that overlap, apply polyurethane glue to faces, and set them aside. Pack the pieces together using a pneumatic nail gun and 3-inch Brad nails. Repeat for the opposite side.

C. Fit the base together. Stand the sides upright with the lower crosspieces facing each other. Fit the stretchers into the notches on the crosspieces.



7. Place the tabletop

A. Remove the form. Fit the form over and place it on a work surface, face facing up. Use a drill/driver to remove the screws. Push on the full ends of the form's short sides to tilt them closer and away from the tabletop.

B. Smooth the edges and surfaces. Run a scrap block of wood along the edges, corners, and surface of the form to smooth rough spots and remove any leftover foam.

C. Position the tabletop on the base. Center the tabletop on the base; it won't hold in place. You'll need add weight or another plant that's heavyish to stabilize it to the process. Over time, the tabletop will lighten in color, when the cedar leaves will weather to a handsome gray.

TIP: If you still stick to the tabletop after it has cured, slip a paper blade under the edges of each piece and pry it off by hand.



MAKING A STARTER HOME **smarter**

How a couple of hands-on homeowners took a bungalow from dilapidated to delightful, using home-center finds

It takes a certain eye to see a smart little cottage where others see a fixer-upper. But Steve and Shanna Mulcahy had exactly that vision when they bought this 875-square-foot bungalow in Belmont Shore, California. "It was in a great location, just a stone's throw from the beach, and the basic layout was good—it hadn't been screwed up," Steve says. Still, the exterior of the 1940 house was showing its age, and its small rooms needed an update. Collaborating with architectural designer Ross Volksen on the front of the house, doing much of the work themselves, and enlisting a general contractor for the bigger projects, the couple tackled the tiny two-bedroom with a ground-up facade and freshened the interior throughout. Fortunately, their redos made them pumped in the car and lot more home centric, securing the sales for well-preserved shutters, fencing, cabinets, crown molding, paint, and more. Keeping reading for the redos they followed—what worked for them may work for you.

BY JULIA CONNORS
PHOTOGRAPH BY RYAN LOWMAN • STYLING BY SUNDAY HOMESCHOOL



1

reimagine the facade

Steve stuck to a modest budget, using materials from the building supply store in Belmont Shore.

► Purchasing the board over 1x6 studs and painting it white converted plain-looking sheathing to the front face of the house. The labor will cost about \$100, as well as buying the cost-effective asphalt shingles.

► Replacing the other side,

as well as updating the rest of the exterior, will add \$1,000 to the cost of the project.

► Relocating the screen created symmetry and allowed room for shutters.

► Building a fence parallel to the original columns and cross-tiling made the exterior more interesting. A light red stain with antique hardware, lantern-style sconces, salvaged brickwork, and rose armband picket fencing helped give the cottage a classic look.

FRONT EXTERIOR
Shutter in white: LEFT, Painted aluminum shutters, from \$300; PROGRESS LIGHT BLACK, white, from \$200. Other colors available. www.paintedshutters.com. Fence: \$20 per linear foot. www.homedepot.com. Shingles: LATICRETE, \$20 per square foot. www.laticrete.com.



2

open and update the kitchen

The extruded steel galaxy door ended inside utility laundry area. BEFORE

- > Swapping a narrow window, clean white Thermoflat cabinets, brushed-nickel pulls, and granite counters with an open edge made the kitchen brighter and more inviting. AFTER: Ebony stained crown molding and toe-kick hidden soapstone cabinet.

- > Creating a half wall to one side of the doorway. AFTER: Opened the space to the dining room. Building open shelving from a converted nail shelf gives it depth.

A new sub-freezer added a warm note to the spacious room appliances and feed into the other rooms in the open plan.



KITCHEN

Design by shown: ASHLEY AND LPT. Vendor: Home Depot. Cabinet: Thermoflat, white, \$77 per linear foot. Glass: \$10 per linear foot. Sink: \$100-\$150 per linear foot. Backsplash: The Kitchen Depot, \$40 per linear foot. Range Hood: Super Capacity, \$300-\$350. Backsplash: Ceramic, \$10 per square foot. Paint: Behr, \$20 per gallon. Countertops: Smooth Surface, \$10 per square foot. Appliances: GE, \$800-\$1,000. Light Fixtures: Bulbrite Industries, \$24-\$200. Cabinets: \$1,000-\$1,500 per linear foot. Backsplash: \$100-\$150 per linear foot. Total cost: \$12,700. Contractors: LPT.

FLOOR PLAN

Your kitchen opened a laundry area off the sunroom. The weather and owner have fit behind cabinet rows. A vault opening and a half-wall now connect the two spaces for the dining room. Ranch doors lead from the master bathroom to a new deck.



PHOTO: RANDI STONE



3

upgrade with molding, paint, refinished floors

The original trim was worn and discolored. BEFORE

- > Adding molding to the crown molding makes the living room look updated again. AFTER: For contrast, walls get a warm, tan-colored beige.
- > Replacing windows with ones that have translucent panels greatly adds to light.
- > Refinishing existing oak floors with a medium-toned stain unified the spaces.

A front-gate-style tile floor in rosewood \$55/sq ft, while on the wood and fire-resistant black on the brick surround.

BEDROOM AND LIVING ROOM
Before: 10'x12' and 10'x14'. AFTER:
Painted: Lighting: Modern from Lumen
Etc., \$200-\$300 per fixture. Furniture:
Kathy Ireland's Signature Colors
Bedroom: Headboard (\$100), nightstands
(\$100 each) and dresser (\$100). Paint: \$10
per gallon. Carpet: \$10 per square foot.



BEFORE





DECK
DESIGN BY SHAWN ARTHUR, POSSIBLY
SUSANNE STONE; FRENCH DOOR: \$399;
PATIO SET: \$1,299; DECKING: \$1,299;
GATE: \$125. ALL FROM HOME DEPOT.

4 extend the living space outdoors

The back of the house, where the bedrooms are located, had almost no connection to the outside. **BY PDH**

- Replacing small windows with French doors brought in air and light, making the 30 by 32-foot bedroom feel larger.
- Adding a deck with a pergola off the master bedroom extended the living space without altering the house's footprint. The deck steps down to the drive, a grilling area, and a lawn set off by a picket fence enclosing the front of the home.



WAINSCOTING
Starter Kit (shown): \$299.99; Profile 3-Light
Decorative Trim: \$19.99; Paint: \$30; Lumber: \$10;
Furniture Paint: \$10; Glass paint: \$14; Vinyl: \$200;
\$10 per gallon. The \$894 Credit: Starter Kit
(\$100); Decorative Trim: \$22; Glass paint:
\$10; Vinyl: \$200. Total cost: \$3,000. **INTERIOR:**
HOME DEPOT



6 upgrade the garage

The former garage had the bland, boxy look of a storage unit. **HO COPE**, its tilt-and-slide door was easily swapped out.

- Swapping an sectional door with wood-paneled and divided-light windows brought the garage up to par with the house.
- A custom vinyl cover over the door softens the all-white facade.

GARAGE
DOOR: BY DESIGN; LEFT:
Traditional Windows; metal
garage door from steel
(\$2,400); vinyl cover
\$1,000. **INTERIOR:**
HOME DEPOT

5 add charm with color and wainscot

The laundry/bathroom area directly behind the adding boardroom wainscoting paneling (which became matching) to an otherwise plain wall reflecting the room's cottage style.

- Painting the wainscoting, trim, and furniture white helps keep the room's theme from becoming too sweet.
- Floor-length curtains hung above the windows help separate them and make them look less cluttered.

20 ways to refresh your bath on a budget

REVIVING a tired washroom needn't require a total overhaul. On the following pages, see how updated fixtures, painted floors, smart storage solutions, and creative wall, window, and mirror treatments can add character and style at an affordable price. **By Stan Williams**



Tie together and tile

1. Coordinated accents Give your bath a designer touch with matching accessories. Here, the modern exterior-sash mirror frame is reinforced by the decorative metal outlet covers. Similar to shown: Kohler 20-inch Recycled Medicine Cabinet, \$129, and tile top. Fondo Design Mirrored Metal Peacock standard and plates, \$44 each. innerspace.com

2. Tiled top An alternative to a stone slab, tiled counters return water but costs less and is easier for DIYers to install. This terra cotta top has white-painted wood framing to give it the rustic flavor. A layer of clear sealant keeps water away from the wood. Similar to shown: Menda Tile Augusta 6-inch tile, \$8 per square foot. homdepot.com

Preserve and polish

3. Refinished fixtures Rather than replace an old cast iron claw foot tub and sink, save dollars by replacing the hardware. A pair of fixtures can cost up to \$2,000 compared with about \$1,500 for having both replaced by a professional. Paint (pri & topcoat) costs extra.

4. Painted floors Give worn wood floors new life by brushing boards with glossy porch paint tinted to match your bath's color scheme. To get the look shown here, add Benjamin Moore's Silestone first in its white Latex-Plus & Poly-Enamel, \$40 per gallon. benjaminmoore.com





Repurpose and recycle

6. DIY WALLPAPER Make your own graphic wall covering out of pages from a vintage book. Brush the page back with wallpaper paste and glue it to the wall. This rustic surface with a clear top coat. (Dresser Sure Grip Kitchen and Bath Wallcovering Adhesive, \$29 per gallon; and Minwax Satin Polyacrylic Protective Finish, \$38 per quart; [seminc.com](#))

7. Salvaged slides When space doesn't allow for a fixed frame hanging door, install a sliding door. This salvaged schoolhouse door glides on a wall mount track patterned after the old hardware. Glass in the door's top pane catches light from the fixture into the wood-paneled bath. Expect to pay about \$300 for a similar door at [columbusarchitecturedesign.com](#).

8. Metal sub-surface Craft a polished metal roof for your deck or bathroom out of corrugated galvanized steel roofing. A 32' by 32' field sheet, enough for one side of a tub (as shown), costs about \$118 at [thehddepot.com](#).

PHOTO BY JEFF LINDENBERG; COURTESY OF THE HD DEPOT, COLUMBUS ARCHITECTURE DESIGN, AND MINWAX



Play up walls and floors

9. Brightened tile Refresh a vintage tiled floor such as this sunburst Art Deco-style floor and black porcelain mosaic with annual acid-stain renewer. Brightly acidic floor stain removes ground-in dirt from the surface and protects tiles. Green Envy Muriatic Acid Renewer, about \$7 per gallon; [greenenvy.com](#)

10. Harmonious color palette Create a striking monochromatic effect by sticking with the mid-point colors in your room's color palette. Similar to sheer window treatments, Delft Print Semi-Gloss Finish lacquer (about \$45 per gallon) overlaps windows.

11. Water-resistant wallpaper Throw down vinyl wallpaper and less expensive vinyl tiles instead of broadloom carpeting made from cellular PVC strands spun to resemble wood and more durable to bequash. Eight inch-wide panels come in white or olive. \$8.99 per 3-foot high piece; [vertrugwoodworks.com](#)

MAKE OVER A MIRROR

12. Peeled overlay Dress up a plain

mirror that's either off the wall by overlaying instead. Here three mirrors were created from one by holding a nail to the wall at the top, going vertical. Cut glass and adhesive caulk. A 1x2 ledger holds the assembly. Expect to pay about \$45 total per piece at [simplyglass.com](#)

13. Tile frame

In reading nook with mix and match glass tiles of the same size and thickness. This multicolor frame also secures a blind wall ledger. Similar to shown, glass squares starting at \$12.22 each; [victorianiles.com](#)

14. Salvaged mirrored

Recapture a Victorian era hotel room surround from a fireplace surround's facade frame for tile or glass. If it's been cut to fit inside the center opening, find a summer front surround and either add one or replace it (\$500 at [invaginaglass.com](#)).





Add dramatic accents

16. Elegant lighting. Turn the ceiling into a focal point by installing a recessed track lighting fixture, such as this bronze-finish four-light crystal chandelier. If installing over a table or oven hood, be sure that it is at least 3 feet of clearance from the rails or the bottom of the pendant to comply with electrical code. Similar to shown: Pyram HomeFitter 36-inch installation \$17.50. www.homedepot.com. Patch-Claw Chandelier: \$179. Patch-Claw.com.

17. Plantation-style shutters. Install interior plantation shutters to provide privacy and direct streams of sunlight for window illumination. Vinyl ones are most durable, resistant, and require little upkeep. Shutter is shown: Altegra® Red Colonial White Faux Wood Shutters starting at \$36 per pair. Lowes.com

18. Two-tone walls. Paint your walls with two-toned ceiling tiles like one here (easy by painting a soothing color under a clear coat). Similar to shown: C2 Paint's LoVe Interior Latex Paint. Gloss finish: \$10. \$5 per gallon. C2Paint.com.

Make it colorful and cheery

20. Roman shade. Peer up into this bathroom's window with these Roman shades in a eye-catching pattern, such as this yellow floral. Silhouette's window shade in dozens of lively prints. \$99 to \$159 each. Silhouette.com.

21. Display shelf. Cap off a vanity with a ledge on which to prop decorative accents. Here, a red-and-white double-duty-as-a-lining shelf for toiletries. Similar to shown: Granite to show: 14-inch-deep planter box with a 20° lip projection, about \$2.40 per linear foot or 10 linear yards.

22. Playful checkboard. Vinyl composition tile offers a durable and inexpensive alternative to a hard-tiled perimeter tile floor. To get the look of these small squares, use a utility cutter to slice 12 inch tiles into 6-inches. Arresting Standard Easlon Imperial Texture tiles in Dutch Gold and Butter Crème Yellow \$45 for a carton of 45 12x12 tiles. Easlon.com. Utility cutter: \$50. Lowes.com.



This Old House HOMESCHOOLING



23 Tips to Paint Better Faster

WORKBOOK SPONSORED BY



Walmart
Save money. Live better.



8 tips to get you started

Here's everything you need to know before you hit the paint aisle.



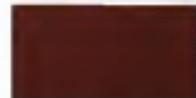
Consider how lighting changes colors.

1. PICK YOUR PAINT TYPE

Latex: Water-based latex is DIY-friendly because it cleans up easily with soap and water. Most paint today is vinyl-acrylic or 100-percent acrylic latex. More and more, it's the only option sold by the gallon.

Latex paint dries quickly, usually in 2 hours, and "cures" in a matter of weeks.

Oil: Also known as solvent-based or alkyd paint, it dries slowly and must be cleaned up with mineral spirits. But that slow drying time helps oil paint level out, reducing visible brush strokes and roller marks. Oil paint also hardens well to create a durable finish.



Afford a room the new look with a fresh coat of paint.



2. GET THE GOOD STUFF

High-quality paints and primers don't sacrifice costlier resins for cheap pigments, so they won't shrink back to reveal bare spots as they dry. The most efficient option, however, is to use an all-in-one paint and primer, which seals your surface like a primer and provides a finish coat all in one pass—making the job far easier.

3. CHOOSE A ROLLER COVER

Match this fiber to the paint type. Get synthetic covers for latex paint, and natural-fiber ones made of mohair or lamb's wool for oil paint. Then match the nap to the surface texture, as shown here:



Semi-smooth →
16- to 18-inch nap cover
for lightly textured walls
(drywall, wood)

4. THE SHINE FACTOR

Choose the right sheen for your surface. Flat, low-luster paints create an even coat that hides flaws. Glossier paints form a smoother, more wear-resistant finish—but they also highlight imperfections. Here's a guide to which sheen works best where:

Flat: Good for ceilings and high-traffic living areas.

Matte: Good for bedrooms, living rooms, dining rooms.

Satin/eggshell: Good for foyers, high-traffic areas.

Semigloss: Good for floors, kitchens, trim.

Gloss: Good for trim, doors, cabinets.



PHOTO: STEPHEN STROH/SHUTTERSTOCK; CLOTHESLINE: GENEVIEVE GAILLARD/SHUTTERSTOCK; PAINT: WALMART



5. POURING SPOUT

An inexpensive plastic snap-on spout makes pouring paint into a roller pan or cut bucket much easier and keeps the lid from clogging with paint.



6. PAINT CALCULATOR

Divide the square footage of your wall surfaces by the coverage per gallon listed on the can. Example: A 20-by-23-foot room with an 8-foot ceiling = 683 square feet, 683 ÷ 350 square feet of coverage per can = 2 gallons (you'll need 4 gallons for two coats).

SQUARE FEET OF WALL SURFACES

÷
COVERAGE PER GALLON (Unfinished)

7. LOW VOC

Paint ingredients contain volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that off-gas, creating that familiar paint smell—and a potential hazard to your health. New formulations aim to reduce or remove these compounds without sacrificing good color and even coverage.

8. GETTHE RIGHT BRUSH

Look for brushes with bristles that are tapered, split, and set in multiple lengths to form a stiff tip. A mix of nylon and polyester holds and releases latex paint well. For oil-based paints, use natural bristles.



Batch of brushes
Buy a broad, angled brush for trim and windows.

=
GALLONS TO BUY

SAVE TIME + SAVE MONEY

The Glidden® Brilliance Collection™ combines our best-quality latex paint and primer in one to make any project easier. High quality and great performance—all at unbeatable prices.



Now. And only
at Walmart.

See later
pages

West Texas
Walls

Recycled
Walls

Glidden

Walmart
Save money. Live better.

How to choose the right color

You can make yourself crazy picking colors for your home. Or you can make it easy with our cheat sheet to the perfect palette for the five most important rooms in any house.



1. KITCHEN

The natural choice for the space where you start your day is a shade of **YELLOW**. Sunny and vibrant, it sparks creativity and makes people happy—like a cup of coffee.



3. DINING ROOM

For a bold look, **RED** is a favorite for dining room walls. Intense and high-energy, this family of colors is said to stimulate both appetite and conversation.



4. BEDROOM

In a private room where the atmosphere should be restful and soothing, some version of **PURPLE** can provide an unexpected lift. Look for lavender and blues.



2. BATHROOM

To bring calm and tranquility, consider **BLUE**, a cool color that acts a missing tone. Pale blues are best for walls; brighter blues make nice accents.



5. FOYER

For open areas that link different rooms, an **ORANGE** shade works well since it harmonizes with other colors. A blend of yellow and red, it adds a feeling of warmth.

6. MIXING AND MATCHING

All colors come from the primary colors—red, yellow, and blue. Mix two primary colors and you get the secondary colors orange (red and yellow), green (yellow and blue), and purple (blue and red). Here are three proven ways to put them together.



+ Complementary colors

Colors on opposite sides of the color wheel enhance and intensify each other's energy: red and green; yellow and violet; and blue and orange.

Monochromatic colors →

Mixing in white, black, or gray produces full shades and hues of the same color such as lacquered plums and lavender. Together they create a subtle restful feeling.



+ Analogous colors

Neighbors on the color wheel such as yellow-orange and peach-orange create a harmonious effect when used together.



get inspired

For more tips and design ideas, go to www.walmart.com/painting

New. And only
at Walmart.



SCRUB-ABLE & DURABLE

Glidden® Brilliance Collection™ is specially formulated for easy stain removal. Independent tests show it performs as well as paints that cost twice as much.

Antique White
Antique
White

Antique
White

Glidden

Walmart
Save money. Live better.

9 pro secrets

You have your paint and your plan, but now what? Check out these simple tricks that anybody can use to ensure a flawless finish.

1. PREP ROOM AND WALLS

To make the job easier, take the time to clear out the room and cover floors and fixtures with drop cloths. Spackle any damaged drywall, sand the surfaces to be painted, and—this is critical—vacuum up all the dust. Wipe down ceilings, walls, and trim with a damp sponge. Finally, prime the entire surface.



2. KIP GLORS AND Drips

To avoid overloading your brush, dip it halfway into the paint and gently tap the bristle ends against both sides of the bucket to remove any excess.



4. CUT IN

Use a 2½- or 3-inch angled brush to paint the border of your work area to protect adjacent surfaces from your roller. To prevent lap marks, maintain a wet edge each time you reload your brush.



5.

Before you begin, soak your brush in thin liquid paint thinner—it will be the easiest way to clean it off if you get a dry blob. It's quick and gets started.

7. LEARN TO LAY OFF

Roll walls before the cut-in perimeter dries to avoid "banding" around the edges of a room. To fill in the wall expanse, make W shapes to release the most paint from the roller, then go over the area with a series of long vertical strokes moving in one direction. This last step, called laying off, will distribute wet paint in a nice, even layer. Work in 3-by-3-foot sections to keep your wet edge.



6.

Wrap your hand in painter's tape, roll it dry, and put down a few more coats to catch loose fibers and keep lint out of your fresh paint.



8. GET A GRIP

Painting is easy, but the repetitive movements can leave you feeling achy if you don't hold the tools correctly. Gently pinch the base of the brush between your index finger and thumb along the bottom of the metal ferrule. It's much like holding a pencil.



boost your paint IQ

For everything you need to know about painting, check out our expert guide *Werner's Complete Guide to Painting* at www.walmarthomeschool.com.

9. FINISH THE JOB

If you've masked off areas with painter's tape, pull it off the same day you paint to prevent the tape from taking dried paint with it.



LOW-VOC, LOW ODOR

Gillette® Brilliance Collection™ paints are low-VOC and no-VOC, so they're better for your family and the environment. And they're low odors, so you can enjoy your painted spaces sooner.



Now. And only
at Walmart.



Werner
Gloss
WG10



Werner
Interior
WG10



Gillette®
Brilliance
Collection™

Walmart
Save money. Live better.

**Introducing high-performance
paint at half the cost.**

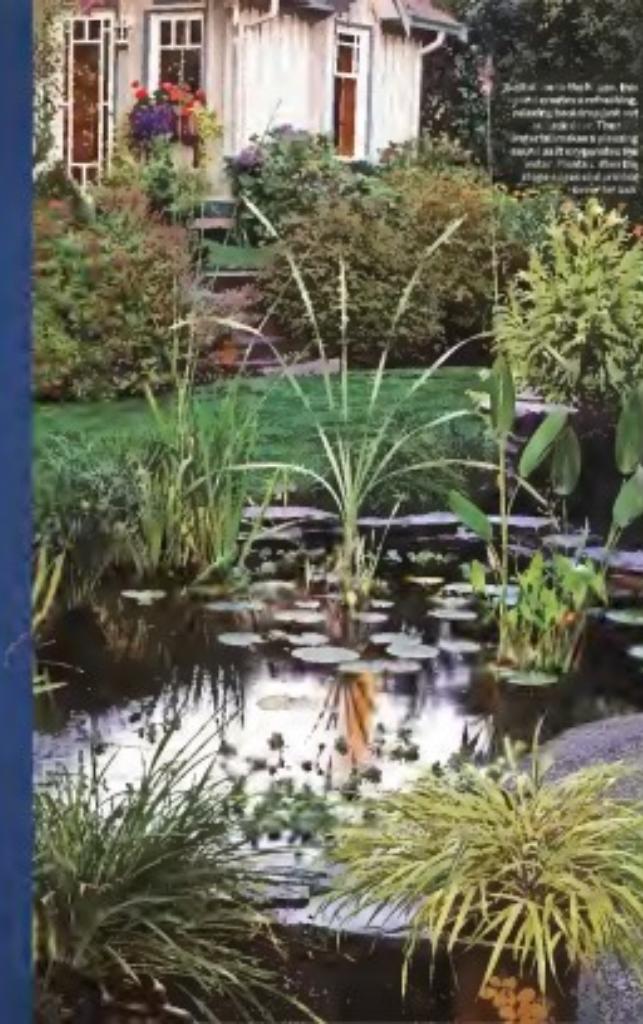
Just one way we bring you low prices, every day on everything.



Walmart 
Save money. Live better.

Businesses can also receive funding by applying for a grant from the Small Business Development Center or the U.S. Small Business Administration.

The following table summarizes the results of the experiments conducted on the proposed system.



VITALS

What's it cost?
Home owners fees start at \$10 for a simple 9-square-foot, .34-gallon pond. A more typical 176-square-foot fish-limited koi pond starts at \$6,000 while more grandiose versions can easily exceed \$100,000.



Digitized by srujanika@gmail.com

Ponds longer than 6 feet in width and deeper than 18 inches require no earthmoving and other heavy work; they are best left alone. Smaller ponds are good DIY projects, but let pros handle the plumbing and electrical work.

How Long Are They Good?
It depends on the item. The best ones have a 20-year warranty and 30- to 40-year life.

Water research
IMPROVEMENTS?
The electricity to run a pump for a typical 120-square-foot pond costs about \$200 a year. Filters need frequent cleaning. Automatic controllers can start at about \$1,000 a year.

Pick your type

All of these support fish and flocs, so go for a look that suits your landscape and your taste.



Natural
Meant to imitate an actual part of the landscape, this kind of pond has free-forms that don't follow a straight or predictable course, and irregular stones and plants native to the area.

semi-natural
Taking cues from the existing landscape around a home, this kind of pond has free-forms, but doesn't follow a straight or predictable course, and irregular stones and plants native to the area.

formal
Because it's geometric shapes, this style of pond is often used in expensive, formal stone or poured concrete. Perfect for a reflecting pool in a formal garden, it also makes a fine alternative for tubs. Plantings are sparse to nonexistent.

Where to put it?

The location of a pond determines its health and your ability to enjoy it.

How much sun? Ideally, ponds should receive sunlight in the morning and shade in the afternoon. This keeps the water cooler, discouraging algae blooms.

What about overhauling trees? A tree's afternoon shade

welcome, but a pencil directly under a tree's branches will quickly clog with leaves, seeds, or needles unless given constant maintenance. If a nearby tree is young, factor in its mature spread before settling on the pond's location.

How far from the house? Ponds that are out of sight tend to get neglected. And if they're further than

20 feet from your porch, you likely won't hear the gurgling of a waterfall or fountain.

What do the rules say? Ask your local building department about how far a pond has to be set back from property lines.

Where are the utility lines? Out of sight, out of mind, but they're there. Call 811 before you begin digging.

top water features
To see more amazing ponds, visit our website.
tinyurl.com/pondtop50

PHOTO: GREGORY D. HARRIS

Materials and equipment

All ponds need these three things: a liner to hold water, a pump to circulate it, and a filter to keep it clean.

1. Liner

Use these for natural, semi-natural, and formal ponds:

- **liner:** Check EPTM liner thickness (in millimeters) and dimensions (in feet).
- **Linear length:** Linear length = (L × width) + (W × depth) + 2
- **Linear width:** Linear width = L + (W × 2)
- **Material:** Liner lengths in inches by linear width to get total square footage.

Synthetic rubber
The best choice for most ponds, 45 mil-thick EPTM liner is thicker than EPDM but easier to handle and less expensive than EPDM. It's also UV-resistant and flexible at -45 degrees F. It can take up to 20 years to deteriorate. Avoid PVC liners—they burn if they catch fire. Liner thicknesses available: 20-mil (7.78 square meters per sq ft), and 45-mil (K99-AD measures 10.88 square meters per sq ft).



Plastic
Choose standard polyethylene (PE) and reinforced polyethylene (RPE) for thinner liners and lower temperatures than EPDM but easier and harder to work with. Liners up to 10000 sq ft. Liner EPTM does carry a 20-year warranty. Avoid PVC liners—they burn if they catch fire. Liner thicknesses available: 20-mil (7.78 square meters per sq ft), and 45-mil (K99-AD measures 10.88 square meters per sq ft).



2. Pump

At minimum, the gallons per minute (GPM) rating should match the volume of your pond. A larger pond will require a pump with a higher GPM to move all the water in the pond. Look for the last digit of the pump's GPM rating to be the same as the last digit of the pump's name.

Direct drive
These pumps are simple and operate them directly, without a motor or pump head. Without a pump head, there's no weight. GPM: 65–1380 Head: up to 15 feet. Watts: 20–300. Warranty: one to three years. Cost: \$15–\$200. tinyurl.com/directdrive

Magnetic drive

Magnetic pumps today are simple and operate them directly, without a pump head.

Without a pump head, there's no weight. GPM: 65–1380 Head: up to 15 feet. Watts: 20–300. Warranty: one to three years. Cost: \$15–\$200. tinyurl.com/magneticdrive



Hybrid drive

Combine the power of a direct drive with the efficiency of a magnetic drive. Watts required: GPM: 65–1380 Head: up to 15 feet. Watts: 20–300. Warranty: one to three years. Cost: \$15–\$200. tinyurl.com/hybriddrive



3. Filter

One type removes the pump. Other types remove the filter, either weekly or monthly, or both. A filter in a waterfall or a water feature skimmer will be easier to replace than one on a pump at the surface. \$100–\$1000. tinyurl.com/filter

Mechanical
These filters collect debris that reaches the pump. Clean weekly or weekly and fill every other week to ensure durability and efficiency. A filter in a waterfall or a water feature skimmer will be easier to replace than one on a pump at the surface. \$100–\$1000. tinyurl.com/mechanical



Biological
A must for ponds with fish. Bacteria decompose organic materials for ponds. tinyurl.com/biological

Bioclear Pond Filter, \$299.95. BioGuard Pond Filter, \$299. tinyurl.com/biological

Prep for installation day

What you need to think about before digging in.

Do you want fish? If so, build your pond at least 2½ inches deep. That depth keeps the pond from freezing in winter or overheating in summer. In extreme northern areas, the minimum depth should be 3 feet.

Will you need a fence? In some areas, local zoning rules require that yards with ponds deeper than 18 inches be surrounded by a fence with a locking gate to keep out unsupervised children.

How will it be refilled? Ponds must be topped off periodically to replace water lost through evaporation or splashing. You can do the job manually with a garden hose or have a automatic fill valve connected to a buried water line. When using city water, protect your fish by adding a dechlorinator directly to the pond.

What about the below-ground dirt? Digging even a small pond will create a large pile of soil. Aired everaker should get rid of it for you, but if you dig yourself, hole, use the soil to reinforce the grade around the pond or to build a waterfall.

Where's the power? A medium-sized 500-gallon pump should be located at least 10 feet from the pond. The electrical cable leading to that outlet needs to be buried at least 12 inches deep.



pro advice

DEMI FORTUNE, AQUATICO DESIGNS, STONY BROOK, NY

Rather than slope the sides of a pond right down to the bottom, make a shelf about 18 inches wide and 18 inches below the water's surface all around the pond's edge. This shelf serves as a platform for plants and a convenient step for anyone who falls in.

SOLUTIONS TO COMMON POND PROBLEMS

Algae: You can kill the green slime with chlorine UV lights, but it can't control blue-green algae. You'll get better results by adding plants, like koi or aquatic ferns, which overheat the fish, harming plants or animals.

Mosquitoes: Keep the basin at bay by stocking larvae-eating fish such as goldfish, koi, betta, or bichir. You can also incorporate dunkin' donuts that release the mosquito幼虫 (M) and kills the larvae without harming plants or animals.

Pests: Deter mosquitos with straight drops of at least 18 inches from the pond's edge. Natural repellents like citronella discourage fish-eating birds. Malaria-activated spirals made of leaves and needles with a special net (Gard; ariatools.com)

Leaves: In the summer, cut out debris before it reaches the pond's edge. Natural repellents like citronella discourage fish-eating birds. Malaria-activated spirals made of leaves and needles with a special net (Gard; ariatools.com)

Ice: Place inner tubular (1x10 pounds/cubic yard) floating pondcover (ice) going to the corner of the pond to keep a portion ice-free and maintain a proper balance of oxygen and carbon dioxide.



WATER AGITATORS

A pond will become stagnant, algae-filled quickly if you don't keep its water moving and aerated. Here are three ways to stir the pot:

- Waterfall:** Water sheeting up from the surface of the pond or flowing from a man-made cascade usually compelling and nice to listen to. Available in a variety of sizes and shapes, each linked to a particular pump capacity.

- Waterfall:** To create the show you want, measure its width in inches at the point water spills out. Multiply 50 if you want a trickle of water, by 100 for a sheet of water, and by 200 for Niagara Falls. The result is how many GPH your pump needs for the falls alone, not counting the pond.

- Bubbles:** An air pump, a separate device from a pond pump, creates bubbles that stably ripple the pond's surface.

PHOTO COURTESY OF AQUATIC PLANTS & EQUIPMENT

Bring your pond to life

Plants provide color and greenery for you, shade and oxygen for fish. The fish dine on mosquitoes and algae as they fertilize the plants, completing the cycle.

PLANTS

cattail (*Typha latifolia*)

ZONES 3–10
Grows along pond edges, in moist soil or standing water. Its long stalks carry spikes to the next zone, so it's fine for year-round. Perennial zones 3–10. Stalks grow up to 10 feet tall.



lotus (*Nelumbo nucifera*)

ZONES 4–10
Planted in containers up to 2 feet deep, it blooms one stalk high above the water surface. Perennial. Leaves up to 20 inches in diameter stay on stems that grow up to 6 feet tall.



iris (*Iris versicolor*)

ZONES 3–8
Planted in pots 3 inches of water. Blooms 5 inches with flowers up to 12 inches tall. Purple shades. Perennial. Stems that grow up to 30 inches tall.



water hyacinth (*Eichornia crassipes*)

ZONES 10–12
A free-floating plant, it sends up 12-inch spikes of lavender flowers up from a rootball of feathery, hairy green leaves. Perennial. Floating leaves grow up to 30 inches tall.



FISH

goldfish (*Carassius auratus*)
The ultimate low-maintenance pet fish can get by eating the plants, algae, and leaves they find. They're live about 10 years and often grow up to 22 inches long.



koi (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)
Koi often live for 40 years or more and grow up to 3 feet long depending on the pond's size. They eat meaty pellets, ground vegetables, and even bread. They'll number waters as far north as Maine.



EXPERIENCE

A beautiful start
to every day



We sell more bath products
from top brands like
Kohler, Moen and Delta
than any national home
improvement retailer.

LOWES.COM
Lowe's, the Lowe's logo, and
the Lowe's color palette are trademarks of LF, LLC.



askthisoldhouse

inside

HEAT PUMPS

BURNED GRASS

POWER OUTAGES

MORE



22
tips, tricks,
and
answers to
your home
improvement
questions



Q My toilet tank is leaking around the bolts holding it to the bowl, but I can't get them off; the nuts are rusted on.

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES/ANDREW DAVIS

A Depending on the location, a few tools will help you take apart a tank. First, turn off the water supply to the tank. Then use a wrench to unscrew the tank's mounting hardware from the bowl.

Next, use a screwdriver to loosen the tank's base bolts. If the base bolts are very tight, use a power drill with a screwdriver bit to break them loose. Once the base bolts are removed, the tank should lift off the bowl.

Finally, use a screwdriver to loosen the tank's mounting hardware from the bowl. Once the tank is off the bowl, you can remove the tank's base bolts and the tank should come off the bowl.

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES/ANDREW DAVIS

Ask our team of veterans experts:

TOM SILVA
General ContractorMARK STEWART
Master CarpenterRICHARD TRETHEWEY
Plumber and Heating ExpertROGER COOK
Landscape ContractorKEVIN O'CONNOR
Host

I know how to frame walls, but what's the best way to keep them in place as the work goes on? —DANIEL WHEELER, BIRMINGHAM, MI



Tom Silva replies: What you have to do is brace each wall after you stand it upright to keep it plumb and stop it from falling over. For a standard-height wall height, you'll need 6- to 10-foot-long 2x4s, except of 2x4 blocks at least 12 inches long, and 12d common nails.

Once the wall is up, get your brother to steady it while you attach the braces so the ends face outwards or into other end of the wall, as high as you can reach. A single nail will be fine at this point. Then, at the other end of the brace, nail through its brace and into the edge of a 2x4 block. Tack down the block with a nail so that its point sinks slightly into the substrate. Now plumb the wall by tapping the block one way or the other until your partner's holding a level against the edge of the end stud, says the wall is plumb. Nail the block securely to the substrate, and drive a couple more nails through each end of the braces. Add more braces in the same way every 10 to 12 feet or so, and your wall will stay put as you finish the rest of the framing.

When a wall is finished and supported at its sides and top, it's safe to cut off the 2x4s to bring them initially helped to keep it upright.

PHOTO BY JEFFREY L. HARRIS FOR THIS OLD HOUSE

Q IN NEED OF A GENERATOR

During a recent power outage, we lost everything in our refrigerator and had no running water from our well. The generator a friend borrowed us could power the shed, and I didn't like having to run the power cord through the window. Is there a generator that would run our fridge, well pump, water heater, and microwave?

—ROBERT GATES, WINCHESTER, VA

Kevin O'Connor replies: The answer, according to master electrician John Barros, could be a standby generator like the one Barros installed at 7020 TV's Carlisle house project. Utilize your furnace's portable gas-line-powered generator, a standby generator is belief to run on concrete pad, separate from the house. It's fueled by a natural-gas line, and heated via the house's furnace through a burner cable. You don't have to keep refilling a gas tank or make power cords through windows. An automatic transfer switch turns on the generator if the power cuts out for more than 30 seconds and shuts it down when the power comes back on.

Barros says you can probably get away with a fairly small generator if you live in a running emergency circuit. An 8- to 10-kilowatt unit, costing about \$2,000, will run the fridge, well pump, heating system,

TO ENTER: To qualify for a chance to win a Harbor 20-kilowatt standby generator with automatic transfer switch (valued at \$4,500), send us a postcard with "TO ENTER" printed on it to thisoldhouse.com/giveaway.



A-1 Key for
operating point
arm

B-1 Gauge
measuring wire
thickness

C-1 Safety
anchor for fall
protection

D-1...

Photo courtesy:
NETWIRE INC.



Garden beds along the border of a lawn bed could be damaged by tools in the result, but in this case, seemingly applied herbicides are the more likely culprit.

Could this have been an herbicide you applied to the bed to prevent weeds? When you spray a bed, you have to extremely careful not to let the mist drift and not to spray before a rain, which can wash the stuff out of the bed and onto the lawn.

The best way to prevent that is to pull weeds out by hand. It's tedious, but highly effective. Some weeds might withstand a herbicide treatment, but no weed can survive being uprooted. I also find weeding to be very satisfying.

It's also possible something is leaching from the nearby soil. Not all mulch is made of virgin wood anymore. Sometimes it comes from construction debris or sometimes the mulch contains a dye that's toxic to grass. A soil test done at a state college extension office can determine if your mulch is causing the problem; if so, you'll have to replace it. I've also seen this type of damage caused by gas spilled when filling a lawn mower or trimmer, or by the careless dumping or spilling of products such as paint thinner, but these usually leave spots, so I doubt that's what happened here.

Q BURNED LAWN EDGES
Can you please tell me
what's killing the lawn around
my planting beds and how to
correct the problem?
—DAVID OLIVER,
MILFORD, DE

Roger Cook replies: Looking at the damage, I can see a V-shape pattern, which is classic for that something took care from the planting beds.

QUESTION
OF THE
MONTH

Q Can you give me the recipe for making compost tea?

—JOHN STUMPF, DETROIT

Quar: \$150 for a 55-gallon system; \$25 for an add-on valve; \$5.95 for 13 feet of air-stirring tubing.

Time: 2 hours

Difficulty: Easy

Roger Cook's Recipe: Compost tea is a natural liquid fertilizer loaded with beneficial bacteria and nutrients that enrich the root system more than traditional compost. A lawn treated with the tea grows faster, needs less watering, and uses less water because of its deep roots.

My compost recipe is 2 parts carbon-rich "browns," such as dead leaves, to 1 part nitrogen-rich "greens," like composted grass clippings. I put 7 pounds of it in a mesh sack and suspend the sack inside a can barrel filled with water and fitted with an aerator. Then I add 12 ounces each of molasses, liquid kelp, and fish hydrolysate. These last two are sold by naturalthrive.com. It takes about 24 hours to brew 15 gallons of tea, enough for more than an acre of lawn. Once it's used up, discard the compost and start a fresh batch.

**2. Place the lid**

Drill a 1/2-inch hole in the center of a lid and thread the irrigation tubing, going through it. Fill a nylon mesh bag or cheesecloth with about 7 pounds of aged compost. Pull the top of the sack through the lid's center hole, and hang it loosely down so that the sack is suspended in the center of the barrel. Place the lid over the barrel.

3. Let it brew

Connect the barrel to the downspout. Using a driveway steel hose clamp, secure the aerator at the end of the tubing coming out of the barrel. Once the barrel is full of rainwater, run the aerator at least 24 hours. Otherwise, wait another 20 minutes before adding compost. (Leave the aerator on whenever there's less than 1/2 inch of rain.)

4. Spray the lawn

For lawns of 400 square feet or less, wet the grass with the tea using a pump sprayer. Use a backpack walk-behind sprayer for larger lawns. One gallon covers about 1,000 square feet. At minimum, apply the tea early spring, summer, early fall, and just before the lawn goes dormant, although it's best to water in letting your grass drink the tea more frequently.

1. Add the tubing

Cut a length of ½-inch-diameter irrigation tubing and bend it into a ring that fits the bottom of the barrel. Join the ends with T-fittings, and attach the remaining tubing to the T-joint legs. Using a ½-inch bit, drill a series of holes into the top of the ring about 2 inches apart. They let air bubbles up, encouraging the growth of beneficial bacteria and reducing odors.



TO ENTER*
Scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit www.ThisOldHouse.com/te for details.
Grand Prize: \$1,000 gift certificate
to [Gardener Supply Company](http://www.GardenerSupply.com).
See website for details.
*Offer ends 10/31/13.

NEW from This Old House

This Old
House

Weekend Remodels

GET PRACTICAL IMPROVEMENTS FROM THE EXPERTS YOU TRUST

Paint Ideas & Projects

PLUS 156 COLOR COMBOS



Available wherever books are sold



DIY Home Improvements from the Experts You Trust

About this book

- 100+ step-by-step projects for kitchens, baths, laundry, and more
- 20 Color Combos to color your own look
- Step-by-step instructions and over 400 instructional photos
- Pro advice and tips from This Old House experts



Photo © iStockphoto.com/eriklam



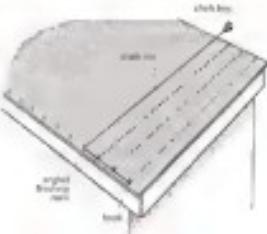
Norm's tricks of the trade

When I work solo, snapping chalk lines to install roofing shingles gets tedious, and the line's hook often slips out of position. Is there a better way to do this job?

—COLIN WOOD, BROOKLYN, NY

A When I lay up roof shingles or installing clapboards, I start by marking both ends of the wall area for the appropriate spacing. Then I drive finishing nails into the marks at one end, suspending them slightly away from the marks at the other end.

I snap the chalk line across, after marking a small line on the bottom nail, but to snap the test line I just leave the hook in place, wind the line over the next nail, and pull the chalk line to the correct width. Do the same for the remaining courses. It's much faster and easier than resetting the heads each time and the back never tires.



NEED PLUMBING, HEATING OR HVAC SUPPLIES?

When we say fast delivery... We mean fast.

- The Largest Selection
- The Lowest Prices
- Delivery at 80 Knots



Saves 5% when you
use coupon code PEXSUPPLY2
Offer Expires 10/31/14

Fast People. Fast Service.
PEXSupply.com

www.pexsupply.com 888.757.4774



WHAT IS IT?

—Rope tensioner

The aluminum Rite Tie Rope Tensioner allows you to easily snare a load of cargo without tying a massive knot—and minus all the extra rope it requires. Just follow the laser-engraved directions and you can quickly pull a rope taut or loosen it. Works with ropes from 1/8 to 1/2 inch in diameter. \$5.30. riteley.com

PHOTO COURTESY OF RITE TIE

READER TOOL TEST

Selectable-speed impact drivers

Driving screws is a rite of life for impact drivers, but driving torque can be overkill for some jobs. That's why a broad range allows pros to choose the torque that suits the task. Klein Tools' cordless models now put five torque levels to the test. Here's their verdict. —JACOB MARCUS



MAKITA BTD144

Price: \$329 makita.com

Our two cents: Hit the fastest impacts on low setting, making it perfect for fast work on fasteners made of brass or stainless steel.

Highlights: Shuts off after trigger is pressed for more than 2 minutes, saves battery from dying while charged at a fast rate.

Tool stats: 4.2 pounds, three speeds, maximum rpm: 2,200, maximum torque: 2,400 in.-lb. Includes soft carry bag, built-in LED, battery-life meter, three-year tool warranty.



PANASONIC EY755DLR2S

Price: \$299 panasonic.com

Our two cents: Drive fast six-inch structural wood screws, hence its name. Its no-dazzle competitor.

Highlights: Switch and housing meet the strict standards for dust and water resistance.

Tool stats: 3.5 pounds, three speeds, maximum rpm: 2,200, maximum torque: 2,500 in.-lb., includes built-in LED, brushless motor, two-year tool warranty.

Price: \$299
macpowertools.com

Our two cents: A solid body of thought, though it may have a few quirks. It doesn't allow you to dial in any two speeds. It also can't allow you to dial in any two torque settings.

Highlights: Lifetime.

Maximizes the length of the brush.

Tool stats: 3.5 pounds, two speeds, maximum rpm: 2,200, maximum torque: 2,600 in.-lb., includes built-in LED, three-year tool warranty.

BOSCH 26618-01

Price: \$319 boschtools.com

Our two cents: Hits the brightest LEDs of the drivers tested.

Highlights: A slow starting time is the only set-back with control. Has the best cut-off of the drivers.

Tool stats: 4.2 pounds, three speeds, maximum rpm: 2,200, maximum torque: 2,800 in.-lb., includes built-in LED, three-year tool warranty.

*The completeness of test results for Bosch and other impact drivers goes through testing consequential.



ADAM BETTIS is a writer based in New Hampshire.

METABO SSD 18 LT

Price: \$309 metabo.us

Our two cents: Very comfortable, but became hot during testing.

Highlights: Three-year battery warranty, more torque of the other tools.

Tool stats: 4 pounds, three speeds, maximum rpm: 2,200, maximum torque: 2,680 in.-lb., maximum torque: 2,400 in.-lb. Includes soft case, built-in LED, battery-life meter, three-year tool warranty.



HITACHI WH18DBL

Price: \$287 hitachipowertools.com

Our two cents: A solid body of thought, though it may have a few quirks. It doesn't allow you to dial in any two speeds. It also can't allow you to dial in any two torque settings.

Highlights: Lifetime.

Maximizes the length of the brush.

Tool stats: 3.5 pounds, two speeds, maximum rpm: 2,200, maximum torque: 2,600 in.-lb., includes built-in LED.



TO ENTER: Go to www.hgtv.com/askthisoldhouse for details.



Handcrafted. Period.
Designed. Delivered. Direct

Hand selected woods
Hand fitted joinery
Hand applied finishes
Handcrafted custom cabinetry

Available drivers, references



Raw Quality Census Geography
Downloaded For Your State's Items

From Plastic Cubes to Custom Boxes of Happiness



Any Home Can be a Log Home

The Marples' leader in quality tongue-n-groove
Lam Siding & Knotty Pine Paneling

GREAT FOR:

New or Existing Homes • Equipment • Decks • Rec. Rooms,
Porches • Bath • Stairs • Sunrooms • Deck & Patios • Corrections

Community
Health Services

© by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill



THE WOODWORKERS SHOPPE

Skyline Woods' line of log home products are available at the Woodworkers Shoppe in Comerica, Michigan. We Ship Nationwide!
Call (800) 818-9971 • woodworkersshoppe.com



Fine Reproduction Hardware & Lighting
www.HOAH.biz



The Perfect Storm

innerglass Insulated Glass Windows

- Maximize the three dimensions of your windows and doors.
- Double-pane insulated glass.
- Expressions fit in almost any design budget.
- Quietly windowed interior.
- Easy to clean, working surfaces.
- Last energy, last cost, and beauty.

Innerglass

Windows & Doors, Inc.
The Comprehensive Window Company

8-800-785-6257 • www.comprehensivewindows.com

HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS

Quality Tools at Ridiculously Low Prices
100% Satisfaction Guaranteed! • Lifetime Warranty on All Hand Tools!

**FACTORY DIRECT
TO YOU!**

How Does Home Depot Compare? We sell high quality tools at low, substantially less prices! We buy direct from the manufacturer who also supply many major brands and sell direct to you. We just had simple Come and see for yourself at one of our 350 STEPHEN'S HARDWARE LOCATIONS and use the 20% OFF Coupon on one of our 7,000 products! Plus pick up a FREE "Piano Sanderfile" or a \$10 VALUE with any purchase. We stock Automotive products, Shop Equipment, Hand Tools, Tires, Compressors, Air & Power Tools, Material Handling, Woodworking Tools, Welders, Tool Boxes, Tools & Equipment, Generators, and much more!

**Nobody beats our quality,
service and price!**



**3 EASY WAYS
TO SHOP!**

1. [WASTI](#)
300 stores Nationwide

2. 50701 **3. GRIP**
www.RubberFridge.com 1-800-423-2567

save this old house

Price: Free (by mail-in)
Location: Goldsboro, N.C.
Value: \$45,000

This Home: The sturdy Moby Smith Thompson House was built in 1901 and named for the woman who invented the first car tire in 1904. Over the years, the 3,604-square-foot clapboard Queen Anne became a boarding house, and its once-affluent neighborhood lost population to nearby suburbs. In 2006, the City of Goldsboro, in partnership with Preservation North Carolina, began buying up the area's existing houses, including this one, selling them off with protective covenants to keep differences from spreading to other areas.

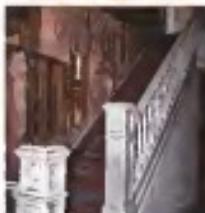
Why save it? The house has its original main spaces, hand-carved decorative shingling, and original staircase. It's located in a neighborhood revitalized downtown that's home to new restaurants and public art as well as a 500-seat performing-arts center.

What it needs: It's pulled to the studs, which makes it easier to install the plumbing, electrical, and HVAC systems. The state's 30 percent historic-criteria matching historic properties will help cover costs.



TO ENTER: Scan this tag with your smartphone for a chance to win a \$10,000 grant. For details, go to oldhouse.com/savethisoldhouse.

NOTE: One winner will be required to sign a written participation agreement, which will include a statement that the organization will not discriminate against anyone based on race, gender, ethnicity, or age.



Get Free Paint!

Paint your home to look like new! Farrow & Ball's Paints are the official paint partner of Save This Old House. They'll help you do the very best job up to 20 gallons of interior and exterior paint in the color of this house—no charge. For more details, write to info@farrows.com.

Enter to
win this
charming
Queen Anne!

a smart way to go about home security and then there's hiding your keys. With Kwikset's SmartCode™ Lock, you can open the door simply by entering your access code and lock it with the touch of a button. No keys required. And, you can give your family temporary access to visitors like contractors, neighbors and housekeepers. And, because our patented SmartGuard™ technology, SmartCode locks are virtually impossible to copy. Discover the smart way to have control of your home security at smartcode.kwikset.com. THE BEST SECURITY IS SMART SECURITY.

SMARTCODE.

MAYBE IT'S TIME YOU PUT LESS CONFIDENCE
IN WHERE YOU HIDE YOUR KEY
AND MORE CONFIDENCE IN YOUR LOCK.

Kwikset.



Photo © 2010 Kwikset Corporation. All rights reserved.



Paint
Farrow &
Ball
www.farrowandball.com
smartcode.kwikset.com

MODEL
SIERRA 1500

HORSEPOWER
403 HP

MAX PAYLOAD
1980 LBS*

MAX TOWING
10,500 LBS*

WE BUILT IT PERFECTLY. SO YOU CAN PERFECTLY BUILD IT.

No job is worth doing unless it's done right. The GMC Sierra, with an available 403 hp Vortec 6.2L engine, our most powerful V-8 ever, helps you build one success after another. And with up to 1980 lbs of payload capacity paired with up to 10,500 lbs of towing, nothing stands between you and perfection.

WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE.

GMC



*Requires NHT Max Towing Package (not available with Z71 wheel), which also includes inclusion of all-wheel drive, optional郊外包裝和 cargo. *Maximum trailer weight rating was calculated based on a heavy vehicle, except for rear equipment necessary to achieve the rating. The weight of other options, such as air suspension and cargo will reduce the maximum trailer weight rating. We encourage you to visit your GMC dealer for specific details. ©2010 GM Corp. All rights reserved. GMC® "Sierra" Vortec® WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE™